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Shanta Rao

Painting By Magda Nachman

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India's First Envoy To The 'New World'

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Since She Went Away

Short Story

By Sheik P. Nooruddin

I live in a strange world, they say. But do I really?—I wonder. True, I forget myself in a world of my own—a world of sweet recollections and bitter memories about one whom I had loved and lost.

My life with her was like a beautiful water-bubble—sweet yet short-lived. Neither I nor she expected it. But all the same it happened: eternal separation. Death snatched her away from me when I expected it the least. And since she went away I feel lonely, awfully lonely amidst so many friends and relatives, and aye, my parents.

What strange a thing man's heart is! How similar and yet how different from man to man! But stranger still is the heart that refuses to understand the heart of another. Otherwise how can they want me to do the thing I do not desire at all?

"Yusuf, you are young," some friend of mine would put in, "and you should not waste promising youth like a Benedict." Another would say: "Life is for living, not for philosophising." Even my parents would often tell me: "Forget the past, son. Invite the future with hope. Begin a new life. Allah will help you."

I know they tell me these things in all good faith and in my interest. But my heart is not in marrying again: it has gone in eternal search of her who has gone never to return.

It is a year since the tragedy happened—the tragedy I cannot forget and have not forgotten. And the words of my well-wishers only stir with greater intensity painful memories of those days when I had thought myself the happiest man in the world; memories of the life I had led with the girl of my heart for my wife, of how I was lifted to elysian heights of joy and how suddenly cruel fate dropped me down on a world of misery.

Zuleikha came into my life—as if out of the dreams. I was then a boy of twelve. One evening as I entered the house merrily whistling, mother called me out from the inner hall: "Yusuf, your aunt has come. See what a sweet little bride she has brought for you." Often mother had told me about the aunt whom I had been longing to meet. I was glad that she had come. But I was curious still to see the "little bride." In a short while I had begun to like the aunt, but Zuleikha I came to like all the more. I grew a strange fascination for the little "curly top" with her bright twinkling eyes and cherubic face where the smiles danced lightly and beautifully.

As days, months and years rolled on, both Zuleikha and I began to find happiness in each other's company. All our leisure, we spent together. Sometimes I would read out or tell her stories—humorous stories which she liked immensely and we would have many a hearty laugh. On some other occasions we would have just pleasant tete-a-tete. Or we would play some games or even stretch ourselves down on the fresh green plot in our garden—watching the fleeting clouds in the azure sky. Or we used to chase butterflies in childish glee. Time indeed flew merrily by till that day when the matriculation examination results were announced.

Nobody would have felt sorry for brilliant success in the very first attempt. But I was—though not at first, afterwards, when my father told me I would be sent to Aligarh for further studies. I knew my father well and a young boy as I was, I had to toe the line without murmur. Ordinarily I would have been glad and willing to join the famous university there. But now that Zuleikha was there, I felt miserable that I should have passed.

Zuleikha was sad to hear that I was soon going to Aligarh. "Cousin dear, how lonely I would feel, if you go away!" she would sigh every now and then. It was a painful experience to hide my own true feelings in order to console her.

It was the eve of my departure to Aligarh. I was busy packing my things. Zuleikha was helping me in the work. All the while her eyes, almost brimming with tears, were silently expressing how much she was feeling about my going away. My heart was also too full with sorrow at the coming separation from her. There was so an unusual terrific silence between us. But it was Zuleikha who broke the ice to say: "So you are going to-morrow...." There was a lump in her throat and she could not speak any more. She tried to hide her tears. It was too much for me to bear. Yet I had to say something: "Why do you weep, Zuleikha? Be a good girl. I will return soon."

Early next morning it was with great reluctance of heart that I took leave of my mother and aunt and made a sad good-bye to Zuleikha. Brave girl! she managed to put up a smile to wish me a happy journey as I stepped into the waiting cart.

I found the college life entirely different, but bustling and interesting. But my thoughts often drifted away to my village where I had left Zuleikha and come. I wrote her letters frequently and it was a pleasure to receive and read her replies written so endearingly. Letters that used to come from her regularly, all of a sudden stopped coming. It was a painful surprise for me. But a subsequent letter from my mother made the whole thing clear. Zuleikha had attained her maidenhood.

No wonder the annual visits home did not hold out any attraction except that occasionally my mother would serve certain dishes saying: "Zuleikha prepared these dishes for you." Now that I could not meet her, I found my holidays without any charm—dull and drab.

Adding to such a misery it so happened that during one such visit, my aunt who had been silently pining away in the thoughts about her dead husband, died. How I sympathised and craved to console poor orphaned Zuleikha; and yet I could not.

But I was to a certain extent gratified at the growing interest my mother was taking in Zuleikha. Even after I had gone back to the University, I often wrote to my mother bring her up with kindness and considerateness.

When I came to my village next time. I had sat for the B.A. examination. One afternoon after the meal, I was turning over some picture mags, when my mother came to me and after talking about so many little things, slowly broached the subject of my marriage: "My son, it is time you got married. Your father also thinks so. We very much wish to see you in happy wedlock."

I was not prepared for the question. Nevertheless I answered: "What is the hurry about it, mother? I'm still young and yet to learn to stand on my own legs." My mother was shrewd enough not to press the matter any further that day. But every now and then she used to put in a word about my getting married soon. At times, because of her pleadings, I felt deeply I must please my kind parents. But thoughts about Zuleikha made me think twice before I could give the word. Since the death of my aunt, I was more than ever feeling that I should make Zuleikha, my own. But it was too delicate for me to tell it myself to mother that I wanted to marry only Zuleikha. Will my parents decide against such a union?—I feared too.

As if to confirm such misgiving, on one occasion my mother did not refer to my marriage, but that of Zuleikha. She said that she and father thought it desirable to have it before the end of the year. It came as a bombshell. That's how I felt it, rather. I kept silent for a while and tried to change over to a different topic. But my mother asked: "How long can your little bride wait for you?" In a trice it was clear to me. Before I could say anything in reply, she went on: "See, Yusuf. Since your aunt passed away, the responsibility of Zuleikha's marriage has become ours. Poor soul! how she wished to see Zuleikha and you united in marriage. Zuleikha is beautiful and intelligent; I'm sure she will make a good wife to you and will herself feel happy with you." I was delighted to learn that Zuleikha would be mine after all. With a buoyant heart I said: "If that's your wish and father's, your son is here to gladden your hearts."

A few months later, the marriage took place. When I saw Zuleikha even after an interval of some years, I found her the same lovable Zuleikha—except that she had now blossomed forth into a very beautiful maiden. And I didn't miss her familiar twinkle in the eye and innocent charm in the face. Needless to tell that the union of the two long separated, loving hearts was supremely ecstatic.

The course of our married life began to run very smoothly—no misunderstandings, no domestic bickerings and no sorrows. Zuleikha was as dutiful and loving a wife to me as I was an understanding and good husband to her. Our marriage was only a culmination of our childhood mutual attachment. And so ours tended to be a life of married love and harmony too. Our happiness was complete except that even after four years we were yet to be blessed with what every young married couple yearn for—a child.

My appointment as lecturer in a college brought me down to the city a hundred miles away. And with me came Zuleikha. One evening as I set out, Zuleikha asked me: "Hubby dear, will you do a bit of shopping for me, while you return?"

"When have I said 'No' to you, my darling?" I replied, "What is that you want—books, bangles or sarees?"

"Nothing of them now, dear," Zuleikha told me. "Remember to get me some balls of good woollen threads. Please select some attractive colours."

I nodded assent. But on a second thought asked: "Why?" Zuleikha grew shy at this question. Still looking at the ground, she coyly cooed! "Yes for some days I had been wanting to tell you something....but....but don't forget to get me the woollen threads. I want them to knit baby frocks and socks. Now you understand?" Yes, I was not slow to understand.

A week after, I took Zuleikha back home so that my mother could look after her during the expectant period. Whenever I could avail of leave, I paid visits to my village. And every time, I returned happier that the day was nearing when we would be the proud parents of a child.

I was in the Staff room when the telegram came. As I opened it I imagined the happy scene of Zuleikha joyously fondling a bonny little babe. But how often man's hopes prove mere dreams!

I could not believe my eyes at first. But it was there in black and white. My heart beat fast—so fast that I felt giddy. I caught the next train home. But my mind was already there long long before the train reached Dhanabad. I rushed from the station only to be told at home that Zuleikha had been taken to the maternity hospital. More than ever I craved to see her immediately and be near her. I literally raced to the hospital by the first available jutka on the road.

Ah, what a cursed man I felt myself to be to see her, now grown pale and writhing with pain! My mother was trying to comfort her. When she saw me, Zuleikha made an effort to rise up and to bring a smile on her swollen face—to welcome me. That touched the tenderest chord of my heart. I controlled my emotions with great difficulty and asked her not to trouble herself like that. After remaining with her for some time, saying soothing words, I met the lady doctor, who counselled patience and faith in the Supreme Cause. "God is in heaven and all will be well with the world," she added. "I hope something will happen by tomorrow for the better." It was somewhat assuring. But I could not compose myself wholly. My mind was still restless, still anxious about her who had meant so much to me. In silence I offered soulful prayers for her recovery.

Most of the time I spent in the ward—speaking gentle, encouraging and hopeful words to Zuleikha or talking to the nurse about Zuleikha's health. A day of anxiety had passed, followed by a sleepless night; but Zuleikha's condition had not changed. The hours of the next morning too were swiftly running away and nothing better happened.

I had to go down to receive some friends who had come to see me and enquire about my wife's health. When I returned after some time, I saw the room was closed. I found myself on the tenterhooks of suspense. It was trying to be outside the room—waiting and waiting. Suddenly painful shrieks escaped the room: they seemed to pierce through my heart. I was in a terrible fix.

"Much hopeful and something unpleasant," was the cryptic remark of the doctor, when she saw me as she came out of the room. But how I died to know the real facts. As if she divined my mind, the nurse who tarried behind, broke the news gently: "the child is stillborn!" My heart sank at the news.

Poor Zuleikha! how anxiously she knitted the little things for the child she was expecting. My mind wandered back to some of my previous visits to my village—I remembered the many occasions when I had tickled Zuleikha about the child she would love to have. Like every other women Zuleikha desired to have a baby edition of herself. I remembered how some times I have jocularly remarked: "What a selfish being you are, Zuleikha!" and how she would answer with a smile: "Then what about you who wish it should be a boy?" and add "Let us be satisfied with what Allah would give us—be it a boy or a girl." I also recollected how I would agree with her: "That is the thing, Zuleikha. Yes, we must not grudge what he gives."

I had seen several times Zuleikha fondling with care and love other's children. And I knew how she desir-

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"I was taken aback when she asked me: 'Will you forget me if I go away?'

"Don't talk in that strain, Zuleikha dear. By Allah's mercy you will be all right soon. The doctor feels you can be taken home in a day or two,"--I said. But she just smiled--a sad smile!"

Stories From

Indian Languages

In response to the suggestion of several readers, we will consider for occasional publication translations of stories already published in the Indian languages.

The translations may be submitted either by the original authors themselves or by anybody else. In the latter case, however, it is necessary that permission for the translation should be expressly secured from the author as well as the publisher concerned and the authority enclosed with the Ms.

Unauthorised translations cannot be published for obvious copyright reasons. All Mss. (which should not normally go beyond 2,000 words) must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelop as usual.

—Ed. B. C. Weekly.

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Meet Ambassador Asaf Ali

India's First Envoy To The 'New World'

"It would be my task not to establish mere empty goodwill but fruitful economic collaboration and co-operation for the mutual benefit of the two countries and others prepared to accept India's friendship on the basis of equality and perfect freedom"

In these words Mr. Asaf Ali summarised his plans during a special interview on the eve of his departure as India's first Ambassador to the United States of America.

India's first Ambassador to the 'New World' is not a mere politician or a bureaucrat, but is a poet, a linguist, a journalist, a philosopher and above all a great realist making his first pilgrimage to the world's most realistic country that counts everything in dollars and cents.

A Self-made Man

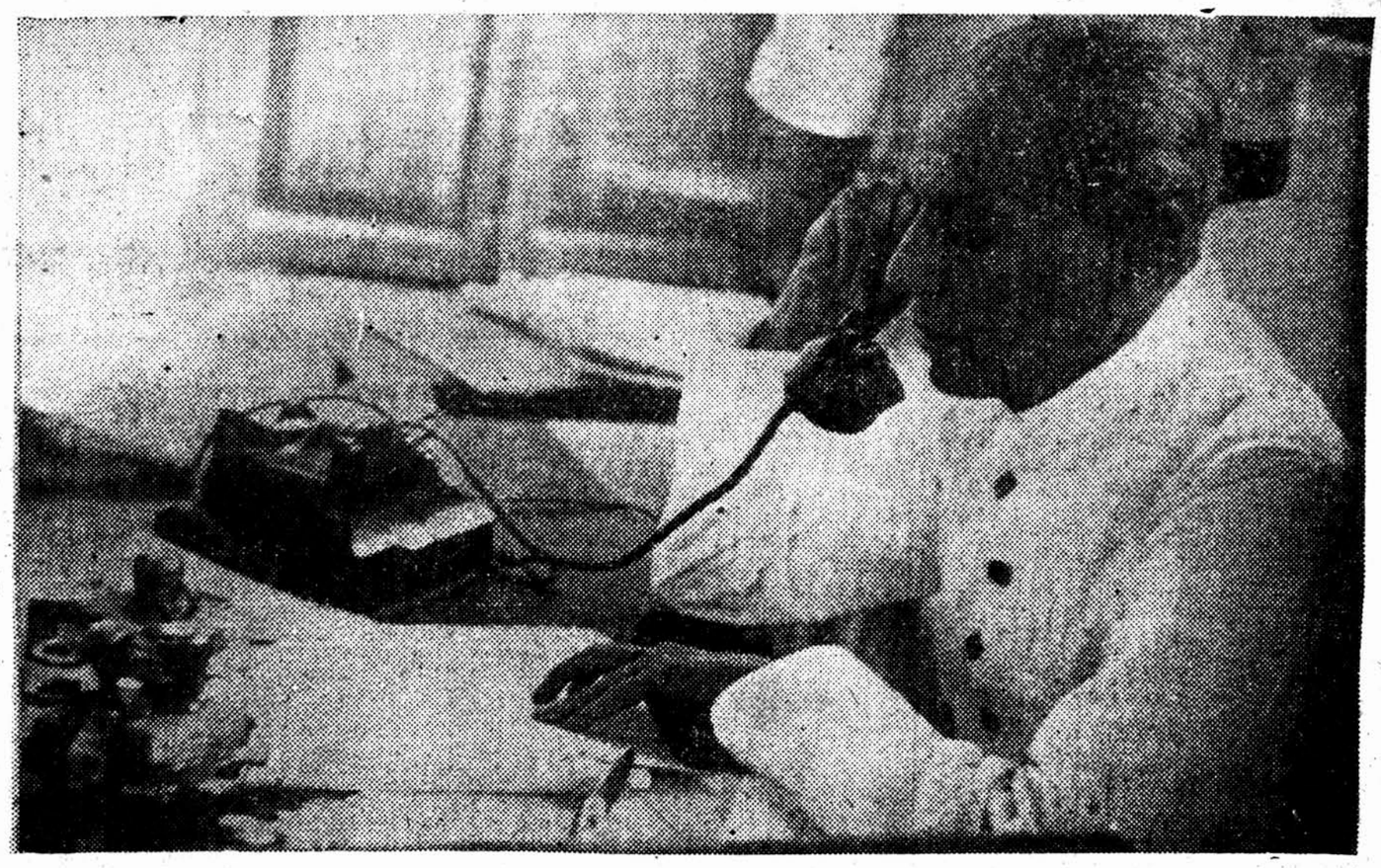
Our Ambassador to the land of self-made people is also a self-made man. In his childhood he got the best of life and worst of life. He comes from a family of aristocrats and administrators connected with the Moghul Court in Delhi. He was brought up in the old tradition of the Moghul Court, but fortunately he was never spoiled, since he became an orphan at the age of 1 1/2 year and had to fall back on his own resources at a very small age.

He graduated from the St. Stephen's College in Delhi which was the best institution in the capital of India. It was here that he had the opportunity to receive education at the hands of the late Rev. C. F. Andrews, a great friend of India, popularly known as Britain's unofficial Ambassador to India. The late Principal Rudra had great personal influence in moulding young Asaf as a public spirited-patriotic youngman. He had a curious combination of subjects such as Greek, Latin, Persian, Arabic and French. Bishop Western was his professor of Philosophy. Even to this day he maintains his interest in Philosophy, Science, Astronomy and Biology.

A Crusader For Human Rights

At the age of sixteen he became a member of the Rationalist Press Association of England. During his five years' educational training in England, he came to know many living poets of the early twenties and his poems appeared in several English journals. He also visited the Continent. His main interest on the Continent was Poetry, Literature and Philosophy. After qualifying for the Bar he returned to India in 1914 during the early months of the first Great War.

As a young, impulsive and patriotic Indian he was greatly agitated about India's position in the comity of nations after the war. In the year 1916 he joined the Home Rule League founded by the late Annie Besant. He also became interested in active journalism and was connected with the "Bombay Chronicle", the "Independent" (founded by the late Pandit Motilal Nehru) and the 'Forward", three great pillars of the Nationalist Press in India. By 1918 he became a popular speaker. His main theme was fundamentals of human rights. In that year he joined the Indian National Congress and his advocacy for freedom led him to be a victim of the India Defence Act. It was one of the earliest Political trials in Delhi, but he was acquitted.



On the counts of his culture, temperament, and service he is the most fitted to take on the onerous task of interpreting India to America.

BY CHAMANLAL

Agitator In Prison

In the year 1919 he threw himself in the Khilafat Agitation (restoration of the Caliphate) and the movement for redress of Punjab Wrongs—the mass massacre at Amritsar. He organised a first rate Volunteers Brigade, composed of youths of all religions for police duties at various festivals and political processions and public gatherings.

It was then that he wrote a pamphlet under the title of Constructive Non-Co-operation, which received public praise from Mahatma Gandhi —Author of the Non-Co-operation Movement against India's foreign aggressors. For the last 28 years Mr. Asaf Ali has remained a close associate, a friend and an adviser to Mahatma Gandhi. He envisaged the Constituent Assembly as early as 1920, when the Indian National Congress launched the first active struggle of defiance and Gandhi threw his challenge to the British Raj. The Government arrested the chief leaders—Motilal Nehru, C. R. Dass, Lajpat Rai and others (leaving Gandhi out). Delhi's popular leader Hakim Ajmal Khan was arrested after he had presided at the Ahmedabad session of the Indian National Congress.

Mr. Asaf Ali was one of the first to go to prison from Delhi. The prison life of those days meant living with lice, bugs and mosquitoes in filthy cells and sleeping on hard earth. Asaf Ali spent his 18 months in the study of poetry and Sanskrit. He read the Ramayana of Tulsidasa and various standard books on Hindu religion. He was powerfully affected by his acquaintance with early Indian history and—mythology and wrote a series of articles on Hindu religious and mythological topics in Sanskrit script—a rare achievement for a Muslim in this age of communal fanaticism. He made the best use of his forced leisure for 18 months behind the prison bars.

Becomes Constitutionalist

Then began the next period of his life. On return from prison in 1923 he was invited by the late Pandit Motilal Nehru to join the Swaraj Party, founded by stalwarts like Motilal, C. R. Dass, Ajmal Khan, Lajpt Rai and Satyamurti—alas none of them are with us to see their dream come true. Mr Asaf Ali, though imprisoned five times for participation in various independence campaigns for leading defiance of the British authority in India, is a born constitutionalist and his mental make up is more of a statesman than of one track agitator.

During the civil disobedience struggle of 1930-32, the Swaraj Party was practically dissolved since the Congress bade good-bye to Constitutional methods after a three years' trial in legislatures, when the Swaraj Party generally with the co-operation of Mr. Jinnah inflicted daily defeats on the irresponsible Government—which was defeat proof and shameproof! The nation under Jawaharlal Nehru's presidentship in December, 1929 declared independence as India's goal and all Congressmen resigned from the legislatures early in 1930 and marched to prison.

I was then a fellow prisoner with Mr. Asaf Ali and I remember the political discussions he used to have in the Ward where he lived with the late Doctor Ansari, a former president of the Congress a truly great nationalist Muslim. It was there that Asaf Ali worked his plans for the revival of the Swaraj Party, renamed Congress Party in the legislatures.

"His Lonely Furrow" Blossoms

A Delhi editor once attached his plan of capturing the legislatures in a very malicious article saying that "Asaf Ali is ploughing his lonely furrow in favour of Council entry while the country wants a struggle' etc. etc. Now Asaf Ali can reply with pride that his 'lonely furrow' has blossomed into full fledged freedom and the Indian Constituent Assembly has declared India a Free Republic from the same Council House, now called the Constitution Hall.

In the year 1933 when political frustration prevailed all over India and the Civil disobedience campaign had been crushed, it was the bold and, courageous lead by Mr Asaf Ali, the late Doctor M. A. Ansari, and the late Mr. Satyamurti that put life into the dead politics of India. Mr. Asaf Ali wrote a historic letter to Mahatma Gandhi asking him to call off the Civil Disobedience like a practical statesman and to permit Congressmen to capture the Constitutiontal Citadel and to prove it to the world that the Congress represents the voice of the people and is entitled to govern the country, on behalf of

(Continued on Page 4)

India's new ambassador to the United States, photographed with friends at the Palam Aerodrome, just before his departure for the United States on February 7. The book he is holding is the "Sceptered Flute", a volume of lyrics presented to him by the author, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, who appears on Mr. Asaf Ali's left.

Just before the take off. Bidding farewell to Pandit Nehru, Sardar Baldev Singh and others. On his left is wife Aruna Asaf Ali who accompanied him up to Karachi. Despite the fact that the Sind Government would not sanction petrol for the reception lorries admirers thronged the Karachi aerodrome by thousands.

Maulana Azad's Letters From Ahmednagar

Musings from his prison cell have become a literary masterpiece.

By M. A. Harris

The latest literary achievements of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad is a collection in book form* of his letters addressed to his friend Nawab Sadar Yar Jung Habibur Rehman Khan Sherwani of Bhikampur, District Aligarh.

These letters, written off and on during the period of his incarceration at the Ahmadnagar Fort and after, not only mark the acme of Maulana Azad's literary genius. They also bring out the wide range of his knowledge, the vastness of his learning, and sharpness of his memory, besides providing an insight into his day-to-day private life, and revealing, as never before, his stoic outlook on life the regularity of his habits, the depth of his affections, the sincerity of his emotions, the philosophic-cum-poetic bent of his mind, his immaculate humour, and the uncommon yet not uncharitable view of life that he takes with admirable frankness and vehement candour. Not before June the 15th, 1945, the day of his release, could the addressee be in receipt of the letters written during detention and one dated 3rd August, 1942 which inadvertently remained unposted before the fateful August the 8th, 1942.

Affinity Between Prose And Poetry

"Ghubar-i-Khatir"—the title of the book—owes its origin to a brochure of identical name brought out by one Mir Azamatullah "Be-Khabar" Bilgrami. Rendered into English, "Ghubar-i-Khatir" means, "Melancholy of Disposition." But this need not give one an impression that the letters bear stamp of melancholy and sorrow to the exclusion of any mark of joy and pleasure. On the contrary, the book is honey-combed with sensuous and romantic couplets of Persian poets like Hafiz and Abul Fazl, and of Urdu poets such as Ghalib, Momin and Mir.

A mere glance at the pages confronts one with innumerable Urdu and Persian couplets radiating mirth and hilarity in a considerable degree. This is a pointer not only to the extraordinary memory of the Maulana. It also proves his consummate penmanship and thorough grasp of the kernel of couplets and of the very spirit of the poet from whom the couplets emanate. Without such complete emanate. hension of the very core of poetry, the Maulana could not possibly make such copious use of couplets in a prose-work in a manner too successful to leave the reader in doubt as to the natural intimacy, nay inborn affinity between his prose and poetry. He may be said to be not only the pioneer but also the promoter of this difficult art in Urdu literature.

The author's deep knowledge of History is spontaneously reflected on numerous occasions in a number of letters. In a letter dated 10th August, 1942, for instance, Maulana surveys the early history of Ahmadnagar and of its founder, Malik Ahmad Nizamul Mulk Bheri, breaking open the floodgates of detailed information about the construction of the fort, about the measurement of the depth and breadth of the trench and about many things which we do not find in text-books on history prescribed for University students. His naming, for convenience sake, Major M. Sendak. I.M.S., as "Chita Khan" testifies to his scrupulous attachment to the minutest details of history, besides giving a glimpse of his innate sense of humour.

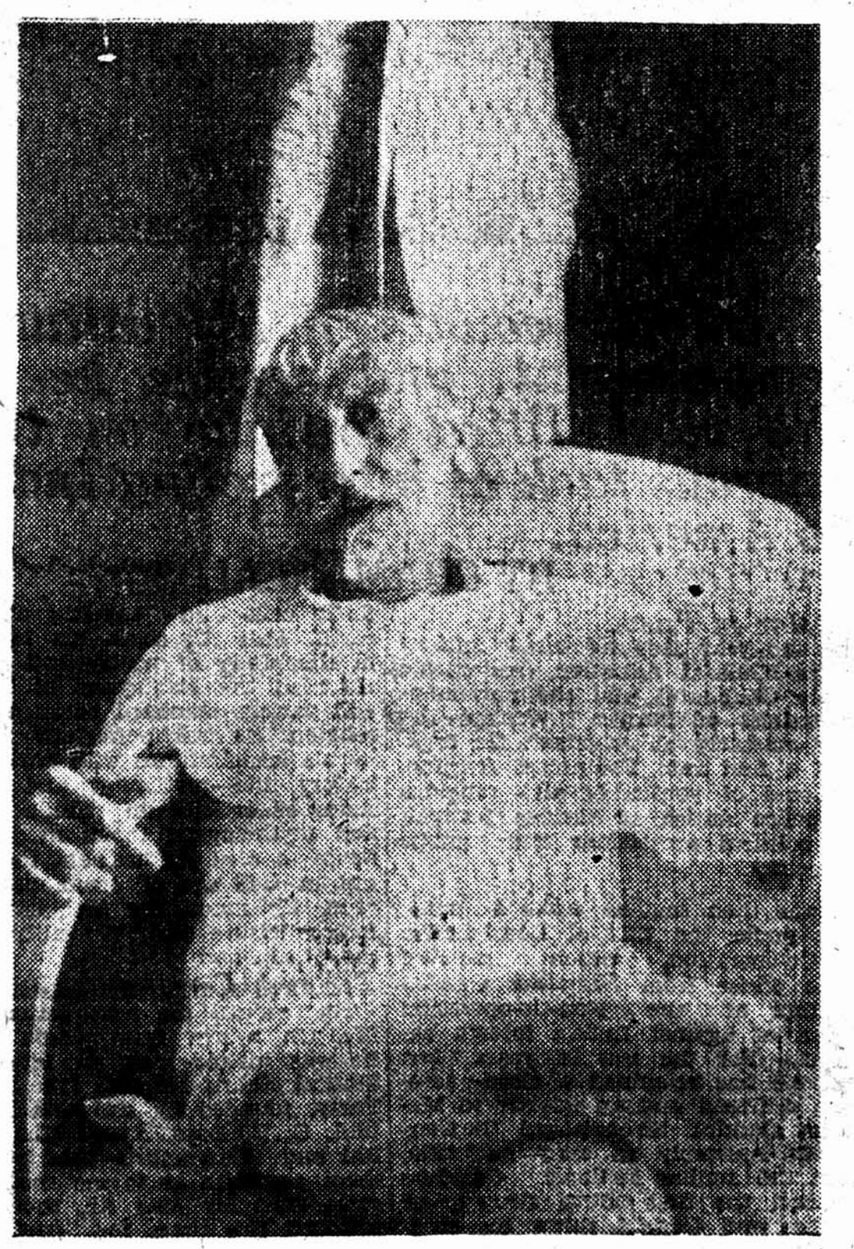
Then, in another letter dated 5th December, 1942, while discussing the memoirs of Jean De Jainville, a French crusader in the 13th century, the Maulana takes the bewildered reader through a maze of historical incidents, opposing statements, and possible interpretations, to the sunlit uplands of clear-cut analysis and lucid exposition supported by logical conclusions. Here he reveals his masterly grasp of ancient Islamic History in addition to his amazing acumen for the marshalling of facts and for quoting extempore chapter and verse for every statement made and every argument adduced. These are only two instances out of a legion of historical anecdotes and facts in which the book abounds.

Not The Journey's End

As an account of incidents, both casual and important, that occurred since August 8, 1942, the book makes very interesting reading. Needless to say that it is the luscious style of the author's pen tinged with his philosophic and poetic comments that creates and sustains interest throughout. For instance, in his letter dated August 10, 1942, he says, "It is nine months since on 4th of December, 1941, the doors of Naini Central Jail were opened out for me. Yesterday, the 9th of August 1942, at 2 o'clock, the new gates of the dilapidated Fort of Ahmednagar were closed behind me."

Recounting in the same letter the events leading to his own and other Congresss leaders' arrest and their subsequent conversation in the train before its departure, he says, "Some friends who were there before me, had traces of sleeplessness and irregular late hours articulate on their faces. Some one said, 'I slept at 2 a.m. and was awakened at 4.' Others said, 'Hardly did we get an hour's sleep.' I said, 'Heaven knows what has become of our somnolent fate? Has any one gone to awaken it'?"

In the same letter he observes. "Now every one was talking about Ahmednagar. For if we were not asked to alight at Poona, then there could not be any other place on this line except Ahmednagar. A certain gentleman who is a native of some place round about, pointed out that the distance between Poona and Ahmednagar does not exceed 70 or 80 miles. Therefore at best there must be two hours and odd to go for the journey's end. But I was thinking of something else. Ahmednagar is certainly not far. It will come quick. But Ahmednagar is not the journey's end. It is the starting point of our journey."



Moulana Azad

When Jawaharlal Talked In Sleep

Then in a letter dated 15th August, 1942, he writes, "To-day I got up before 3 A.M. In the verandah there was all quiet. Only outside one could hear the echo of watchman's voice. Here the warders are supposed to keep watch for three or more than three hours in the night. But hardly are they found awake. Even at that moment a warder was sleeping in the yonder verandah with his cloak spread out, and snoring violently. Instantly I remembered Poet Momin's couplet:—How much does he rely on my comnolent fate! Else how could there be sleep for the sentry's eyes?"

Proceeding further, he says, "If there is anything disturbing the calm of the moment, it is the soft noise of Jawaharlal's snorings. He is sleeping in the neighbouring room where there is a mere wooden partition separating us. As soon as the snorings stop, he starts talking in sleep as is his wont. This is always in English. It is a strange phenomenon. Generally speaking, it is given to those whose mind sub-serves emotions. Jawaharlal is also an out and out emotional being. That's why, whether he is awake or asleep, emotions continue working."

Tea—The Central Theme!

Those accustomed to Maulana Azad's serious type of writings, and high, philosophic style, will be gratified to read his letters dated March 2, and March 17, 1943, wherein he speaks in lighter vein of serious things, yet never departing on the whole from his natural flair for philosophizing and moralizing. In both the letters he discusses the antics of sparrows, the agility of their young ones, their innate instinct of fellow-feeling, and self-help, their exquisite sense of beauty and finery, their proverbial instinct of flocking together, their cautious and wary demeanour, their bold and plucky nature. He writes about all this with a style, grace and humour rarely matched by any one in the contemporary progressive literature.

In fact, like Shakespeare, he has created two undying characters in the sparrow-couple "Qualander" and "Moti". Never had human imagination soared so high, literary genius waxed so eloquent, and subtle humour been so devastating. One cannot help reading these two letters over and over again.

All told, tea is the central theme of this "Maloncholy of Disposition" And an intellectual aristocrat that he is, Maulana Azad cannot do without an aristocratic brand of Ambrosia tea. He is accustomed to the fragrant Chinese tea, and a drop of it, taken without milk, sends him into ecstasies of joy and mirth which find expression in marvellous Persian, Arabic or Urdu couplets, brilliantly conceived and exquisitely fitted in prose that has its own indescribable charm, unsurpassable grace and incomparable velvety flow. Never had so much been written on tea, for tea and because of tea. Truly, the title of literary giant fits Maulana Azad to a T.

*"Ghubar-i-Khatir" by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Haji Publishing House, Delhi. Price Rs. 4.

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the people.

The late Mr. Satyamurti, the late Mr. Bhulabhai Desai and Mr. Asaf Ali organised the present Congress party in the legislature and worked for capture of power for the people. Asaf Ali worked as the brain of the party, as Secretary and Deputy Leader until he was selected as a member of the present Interim Government.

The story of Asaf Ali's five prison terms in 1921, 1932 1940 and 1942 is the story of hundreds of thousands of his compatriots but his last imprisonment for nearly three years as a member of the highest national executive—The Congress Working Committee was a great ordeal for him. While other members could at least receive letters from their families, Asaf Ali could not enjoy even that satisfaction, since Mrs. Asaf Ali—a veteran socialist leader and a born rebel—a modern Joan of Arc was functioning underground, as the leader of the 1942 rebellion.

Asaf Ali came out of the Ahmednagar fort as mere skeleton. I remember the night he was transferred to a Punjab Prison shortly before his release. He had not the strength to get into his railway compartment and I lifted him bodily. In fact his recovery was a miracle—thanks to the health giving climate of Kashmir where he spent several months after release from long detention.

INDIA'S FIRST ENVOY TO THE 'NEW WORLD'

Two Bodies And One Soul

For six years Asaf Ali was 'the man behind the throne' when Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was President of the Indian National Congress. He has been truly a friend and philosopher to the great President who will miss him most. They could be described as "Two bodies and one soul" seldom does one come across two more intimate friends in politics, which is a very ungrateful and if I may be excused, a dirty profession inspite of all the glory.

Asaf Ali, the agitator, the orator and prison bird has proved to be a very able administrator too. He has given a practical and worthy record in a short period of four months, although during his 12 years of legislature activities Asaf Ali was mainly interested in Defence and Foreign Affairs he was put incharge of country's Transport Administration, which had always remained a monopoly of the British.

Against Strikes

Asaf Ali is a very staunch nationalist who is bitterly opposed to class-war. He feels that the economic life of the country must be built up before an equitable distribution of wealth can be arranged. In this respect he stands in close contrast to his great wife, who is a devout socialist and a fiery labour leader who is always on whirl wind tours of various labour centres, always coming to the rescue of strikers, Asaf Ali is dead opposed to strikes and he proved it at the time of the Railway strike in Madras last year by using 'A firm hand'. No wonder the leftists call him 'A reactionary' but he goes on his way. He believes in "first raising standards and dealing with hard realities by skill".

Dreams Of Glorious India

He has been a mixture of an optimist and a pessimist changing according to moods but now he is in a very optimistic mood. He told me the other day "With the great resources at our command we can change the face of India out of recognition within five years. I have introduced Indianisation in my department special in Port Trusts, and I made it a rule to see that foreigners are treated like Indians and they regard themselves as servant of India and not bosses".

Asaf Ali believes that India can contribute her share to the peaceful establishment of world-order through economic and cultural collaboration. Referring to his mission in the U.S.A. he told me: "It would be my task not to establish mere empty goodwill but fruitful economic co-operation for the mutual benefit of the two countries and others prepared to accept India's friendship on the basis of equality and perfect freedom".

Mr. Asaf Ali during his stay in the United States will publish two books:

(1) "My Diary" dealing with men and politics in India.

(2) Autography in two volumes. The first volume which deals with his life upto 1920 will cover 600 printed pages, according to Mr. Asaf Ali. The second volume will deal with the current history of India's struggle for freedom. When I asked him 'Why don't you publish them in India" he replied with a smile "You know the readers' mentality.

U.N.R.R A. GOES—HUNGER STAYS!

The death pangs of U.N.R.R.A. are untimely. It is as though the curtain had fallen midway through a world-wide drama, leaving the story incomplete and hiding a scene of economic misery.

For tragedy hovers starkly over certain countries—especially those of Eastern Europe. More than 85 per cent of U.N.R.R.A.'s supplies were allocated to these countries. Much has been accomplished but experts are agreed that at least another year's aid is necessary to save millions from starvation.

Contributions to U.N.R.R.A. ended in December. This year food shipments to the countries in need will cease three months before their harvests begin. Moreover, U.N.R.R.A. still owes about 6,000,000 tons of food, supplies having been held up, primarily by American strikes. It is a race against time, for a number of countries now receiving aid lack the machinery to support themselves.

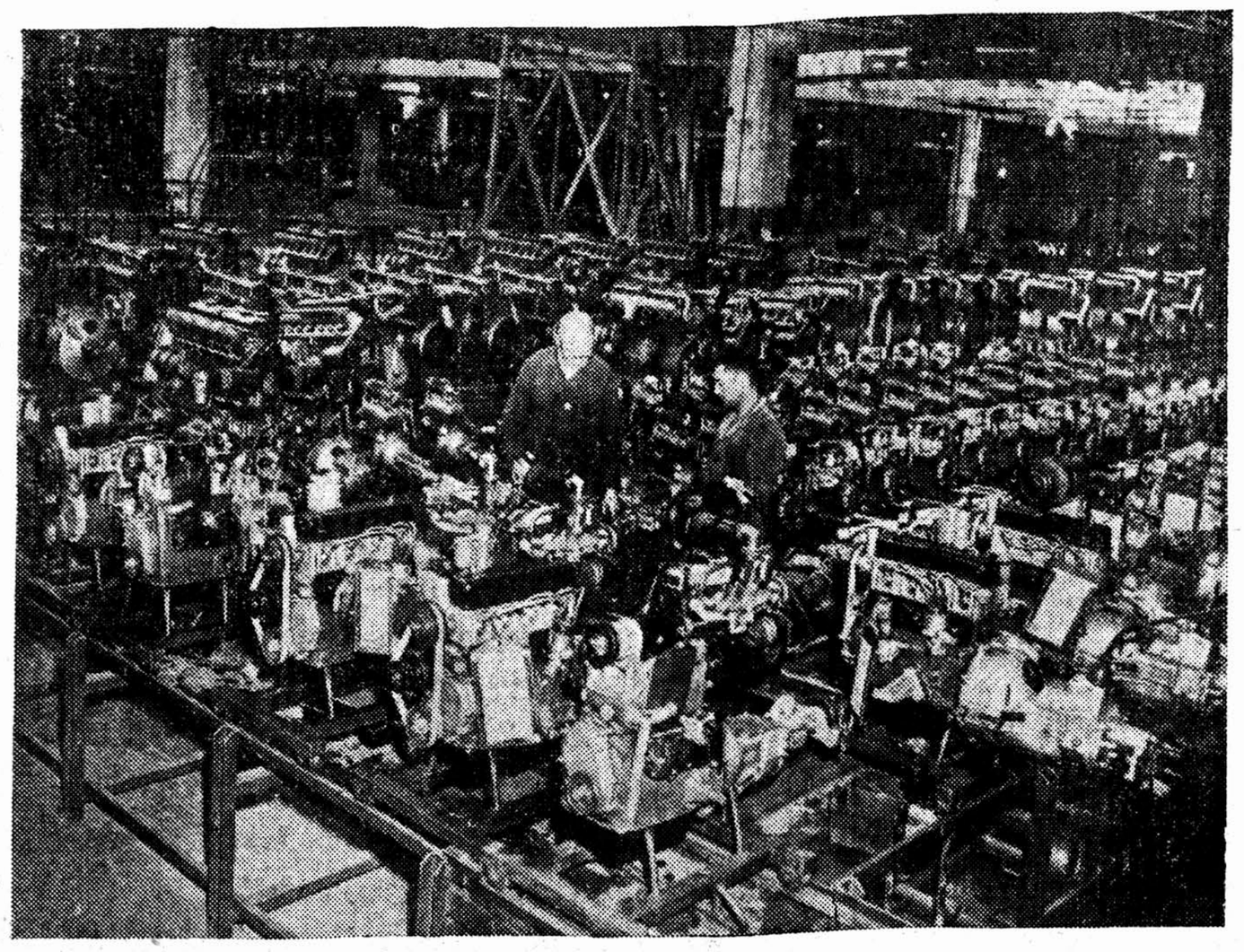
As the curtain falls on the biggest relief operation in history the question arises: "Where will these countries derive the foreign exchange they need to ward off starvation?" No doubt unhappy eyes will look towards America, already criticised for declining to continue helping those countries coming within the Russian sphere of influence.

Fears For The Future

Recently Mr. LaGuardia, U. N. R R. A.'s fiery Director-General, attacked as power-politics the American plan for replacing the work of U. N. R. R. A. in Europe. Actually the scraping of U.N.R.R.A., as one influential London newspaper claims; "has turned the virtual monopoly of America as the whole world's arsenal and granary into a power-political asset of the first magnitude."

U.N.R.R.A.'s final report on economic recovery showed that by the end of its operations this humanitarian body will have delivered supplies to the value of nearly £900,000,000 (including freight costs), LaGuardia claims that U.N.R.R.A. supplies saved 800,000,000 lives. So far so good. What of the future? The relief horizon is somewhat hazy. The Food and Agricultural Organisation is to inherit the job of putting Europe's disrupted economies back on their feet. But it is

(Continued on Page 21)



The beginning of 1947 marked the end of the first full year of peace and the death of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration Its untimely demise threatens inflation and perhaps starvation in many lands.

By DOUGLAS LIVERSIDGE

Italy's food problem, like that of most European countries, is complicated by lack of transport. Here, in the Fiat works at Turin, are motors that could not have been made without UNRRA's assistance to Italy; they were for use in transport vehicles to aid in distributing such supplies. Experts agree that UNRRA should have continued its operations until the next harvest, but political considerations proved too strong. With the cessation of relief comes the renewed risk of economic breakdown and inflation.

Between Ourselves

At last we have found a correspondent after our heart!

While most contributors to this Department have numerous critical suggestions to make—at our express invitation of course!—Reader Vohra is apparently content with the service rendered by the BCW. While this won't make us in the least complacent, it is good to find that some of our readers are conscious of the difficulties of conducting a journal. Apart from anything else the newsprint shortage is a sore handicap even a year and half after the end of the war. We trust, therefore, that Readers who find their suggestions not carried out will realise that we have to make a little go a long way and not be "dissatisfied", as Mr. Vohra suggests.

His letter naturally gets the pride of place this week:

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After Our Heart

"Your "senior partners" are having their say with a vengeance! But allow me to maintain that it is primarily the duty of the Editor to improve his Weekly and though he is at liberty to invite suggestions about it's improvement, he must nevertheless use his discretion in accepting them. For instance, it will be impossible for you to carry out all the improvements suggested, even if all of them are worth carrying out, for the space at your disposal is limited to 24 pages or so, and those of the readers who do not see their suggestions carried out, will to say the least, be dissatisfied.

What about asking your readers to point out the features they like the least? By eliminating the least approved features you will both unprove the Weekly and find space available to carry out some of the suggestions of your readers. For a start may I suggest the elimination of ordinary news often printed in your weekly? Their proper place is in a daily newspaper."

G. I. VOHRA.

Prantij,
(Gujarat).

Yes. We join our correspondent in asking our Readers to point out the features they like the least. In fact we had suggested this at the very beginning though our Readers seem to be too polite to do so. Its never too late to begin however—to be catty!

About the publication of "ordinary news" in the B.C.W. Reader Vohra is labouring under a misapprehension like many others. It is therefore best to take the Readers into confidence regarding the production of their favourite paper. The "Bombay Chronicle Weekly" like other papers with countrywide circulation is published in a number of editions, which are not identical. While the magazine section (pages 1 to 6 and 19 to 24) are common to all the editions, the middle 12 pages are different.

Our first mofjusil (which is printed in the middle of the week and goes outside Bombay province) does not contain any news but a number of subsidiary articles. The second edition which goes outside Bombay is printed on Saturday and contains the latest news, and news features like the Delhi Letter, Sports Comments etc., which are reproduced the following week in the distant dak edition.

That is why they read slightly (and unavoidably) stale in Madras or Karachi, for example, and that is also why there is occasional overlapping of matter in the first two editions only. Even an Editor nods—like Homer!

The Bombay City edition is printed in the early hours of Sunday and all the middle twelve pages are made up anew with the latest telegrams. In a way that is our star edition—the COMPLEAT B.C.W., which contains news as well as views, reports of press agencies as also our special correspondents' coverage—and of course the magazine section. We naturally are anxious to give more articles and features and expand our magazine side but it MUST wait!—Ed.

★

Provincial Round-Up

I have been watching with growing interest your new Department, 'Between Ourselves' since its opening. I am glad to read from it that you want it to grow into a seat of suggestions of your readers for improving the Weekly. The readers' suggestions will no doubt stand you in good stead in running the Weekly. But what I like to mention here is that besides suggestions, this new Department ought to be a medium of exchanging views of readers on different topics.

It is really interesting and a great pleasure to hear from you, "Still they pour in from Kashmir to Cape Comorin or—to be precise—from Quetta to Arkonam. What more pleasure shall not we be deriving if we can communicate our views of one part to a man or woman of a past hundred miles away from us through 'Between Ourselves'! It is this very reason why your Delhi Letter interests me most. I hope that you shall also arrange for publishing letters of this type not merely from urban parts, but also from parts like where Gandhiji has been travelling, or where peasants and the proletariat have been watching the world progress, or from places like Waziristan where lights have been denied".

BRAJENDU KUMAR NAIK.
Cuttack.

We wholeheartedly endorse Reader Naik's excellent suggestion, BUT have regrettably to plead our inability to act upon it for the time being. We will, however, certainly remember it when we get more quota of the precious newsprint.—Ed.

★

Not So Hard, Miss!

I would like to bring the following points to your kind consideration.

(1) B.C.W. should maintain a seriousness in literature and should not go to the standard of commonplace journals. So poetry, film and children's Corner, etc., need not be encouraged. What is wanted is the knowledge of natural and social sciences and the present day world affairs. For light amusements your jokes and cartoons are very entertaining and enough.

(2) It is very good of you to publish articles of foreign writers (as unfortunately in India journalists are hopeless with a few exceptions. This maintains a respectable standard of B.C.W.

(3) Please try to give some such articles as appear in 'Popular Science Monthly'. This will make B.C.W. more attractive and valuable".

(MISS) SNEHLATA GROVER.
Lucknow.

You are hard upon us, poor Indian journalists, Lady! Why do you give up all hope for us? We don't—otherwise we wouldn't be conducting this journal! The best of us can stand up to the best abroad—except that there are fewer chances here for making an international name. And the worst of us are no worse than their opposite foreign numbers. And always remember that we are working in an alien language, under an alien rule and with scant resources at our disposal

We appreciate the fact that you are a serious and scientific-minded girl—India badly needs such women—and we will try to cater to your tastes. But why, again, are you so hard upon poetry, film and the children's corner? We are sure when you grow up, you will learn to appreciate all these features—especially (with God's blessings) the last!—Ed

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All correspondence meant for this Department should be superscribed: "Between Ourselves", Bombay Chronicle Weekly, Bombay.

Highlight Of England Cricket Tour

When Sellers Could Not Sell His Wares!

Our team's efforts in England last summer were no doubt a decided advance and improvement over those of a decade and more ago. The technique and science of the game as played in India had been slowly but steadily making progress in all departments, though it was more marked in batting.

Centuries, even double ones, scored in good and correct style were no longer exceptions and the All-India team of today could easily boast of atleast three fourth of its members who would be relied upon to contribute three figure total with a little bit of luck to favour them. Out of the sixteen players who made the trip to England last year, all except Shinde and Hindlekar who were numbers ten and eleven in our batting list in all matches had excellent batting performances to the credit in the previous seasons.

Some of them unfortunately could not adjust their game to the ever-changing weather and wicket. The comparative failure of Amarnath, Mushtaq, Haffeez, Gulmohamad and Sohoni who all were amongst our chief rungetters, could be ascribed to the fact that they had a tendency to play too-much forward even when the balls kept on swinging, long time after their shine was off.

When however the weather was dry and the pitches approximated to those which we got in India, our batsmen were in best scoring mood and gave a pretty exhibition of the art of batsmanship, as for instance against Yorkshire, Lancashire, Surrey and Sussex.

What however appealed to us throughout the tour most was a fine team spirit both on and off the field.

I was many times asked to name the matches which proved best and most enjoyable from the point of view of the game and the contest involved in it. The Tests obviously were the matches expected and meant to be such but some how or other they proved to be otherwise.

The last two were uninterrupted and spoiled by rain and then the element of luck and chance prevailed.

The first test was likely to be the ideal contest of the year, particularly after we had won the toss in fine weather condition and were likely to put up a fairly big total and excellent fight, to draw the game, if not to win it. Our batsmen, however, were (in the 1st innings when the wicket was quite good and fresh) too,—restrained and cautious and failed to punish even the half volleys of the moderate attack of England. A sort of test-complex overcame our star-bats who allowed the bowlers to get on top. We thus lost the grip on the game and were dismissed for about two hundred. All chances then of making a good fight of it vanished. All know how after our batting debacle of the 1st innings the first Test turned out to be a one-sided affair against us.

The lack of courage and confidence which cost us the opening test was cured as the tour progressed and our batsmen realised that attack on a good wicket was the best means of defence. It has a great psychological effect not only, on the bowlers who lose their length but also on our friends who then can play the usual mood.

A CRUCIAL MATCH

It was against Yorkshire in their return match at Sheffield in mid July that I found India playing the right type of game and accepting the challenge thown out by the champion county. We had lost the previous fixture against the same county by an innings and our prestige was at stake. In the first match, the freaks of the weather were mercilessly against us; the result of the next game however was to be definite proof and evidence of it.

Yorkshire, besides being the leading county for a number of years were guided by one of the ablest captains and critics of the game.

Under the inspiring leadership of Sellers, they had already established a great reputation as the best of fighters who would give nothing easily away. Every run against them was to be fought for and won. Under such circumstances the match against York was as good and strenuous as against England and naturally evoked much interest.

SELLER'S PSYCHOLOGY

With such an interesting and exciting background the Indians took the field, being rather disappointed at the ill-luck to lose the toss when both the weather and wicket were delightfully inviting on such a paradise, the Yorkshire bats had no difficulty to collect 300 runs for 6 wickets in four hours.

Here came the psychological moment when the Indians could be overawed and their morale quite crushed. They were once routed with heavy loss and now were so overcome and exhausted that one blow would be enough to put them out of fight or to bring them to their knees.

With such a calculation in his mind, Sellers applied a most dramatic and adventurous closure to his innings and challenged our bats to face his attack in difficult last one hour and half. This was indeed a very risky, though bold policy particularly when the match was to go on for three days and the wicket was too true to give any help to the bowlers.

This abrupt declaration was a novelty and was not only unusual in the game but irregular according to the M.C.C. rules which laid down that the inside could declare its innings, on the 1st day not later than one hour and forty minutes to the closing time. For the matches played by the counts in 1946, however M.C.C. allowed declaration at any time after 300 runs on the 1st day the object being to minimise the possibilities of a draw owing to a waste of time. Those who did not know the innovation in the rules were surprised at Sellers step, which though it looked like a bold stroke of strategy was nevertheless intended to paralyse the confidence of the opponents and take them by surprise and shock.

It was like bearding the lion in his den—an enterprise which might lead to disaster, if it failed. To some of us who knew the potential batting strength of the Indian team, it appeared a cheeky challenge almost an affront which smacked of contempt of the side once defeated.

TWILIGHTS TOLL

One hour and half before the close of the game on the first day our vanguard of batting took up their stand in nervous tension, weighed with a feeling of responsibility.

As Sellers calculated, the fading light of the evening took the toll of Merchant, Mushtaq and Mody, our opening stalwarts. At the end of the 1st day, we were three out for 41.

A few more quick wickets on the 2nd day, then the inevitable follow on and the Indians would be once again routed. This was the picture which the Yorkshire Captain and his enthusiastic supporters imagined to themselves, well satisfied with the initial day's work. They however counted without their host.

They forgot what the Surrey fixture a few days ago had proved—that the Indian side could bat well and retriveve lost ground, right up to number eleven. The team of which even the last pair could pile up a century each, need not dispair with a few initial setbacks.

With this confident frame of wind, Hazare and Mankad faced on the 2nd day the determined and deadly attack of Yorkshire; with patience and perseverance for which Vijay Hazare was famous. They raised bit by bit the total to 363, thus putting up worthy partnership of 322 runs which would long be remembered as a record for the fourth wicket in our tour.

Hazare collected that day 244 which were not only the highest total for the Indians but for Englishmen as well during the year. He was eventually recalled when our total was 490 for 5 and we were in so strong a position as to turn the tables on our opponents by putting them in at the close of the 2nd days play.

Mankad scored 132 quickly and would have carried his bat like his partner but a cramp made it impossible for him to continue his game.

Our skipper the Nawab too had a brisk 51, not out before he decided to wind up his sides activity to give a much longer rope to the opponents.

THE BITER BIT

I enjoyed most the critical situation created on the 1st and 2nd day by the daring challenge and shock-tactics employed by the Yorkshire Skipper. He obviously wanted to either win the match outright or to lose it. A tame and lingering draw, he wished to avoid at all cost. It was however clear from his attitude that he trifled with our strength. with which he thought he could easily take chances. This intimidating strategy however did not only fail completely but recoiled on himself and his team on the 2nd day to such an extent that they had to lick the dust and hug the ground for breath—as we say in the language of the wrestlers.

They had to do throughout the hot day so much of leather—hunting that it was a pitiable sight to see them vainly chasing the ball to the boundary, panting for breath.

Old Sellers could neither bend nor stop the balls with his foot, and had to be content only with signalling boundaries.

The Yorkshire attack with its fighting spirit was thoroughly broken and the team got so severe a shock that the intensity of the situation developed the tragedy into an enjoyable and interesting comedy so that the local supporters of the county commenced cheering their fallen heroes in an ironical and humorous vein. The agonies of both the fielders and bowlers ended with the declaration of Pataudi and all of them heaved a sigh of relief.

Never have I seen such a complete eclipse and humiliation of proud heroes as those of Yorkshire. It was a memorable match which taught them a lesson, not to trifle with any opponent and underestimate his strength with a feeling of extra-confidence and complacency. York would have almost lost the match on the 3rd day, being a long way in arrears; rain however which had helped them in the 1st match, again came to their rescue and the expected sensational result could not be had and the game had to be abandoned in 3rd and last day, without a ball being bowled.

York, Lancashire and Middlesex were easily the best counties last year and convincing performances against them proved a consolation and comfort to us, though we could not win a Test.

By Prof. D.B. Deodhar

It is true that India did not win a single Test in England last year but, taken all in all, the tour was an all-round success. The veteran D. B. Deodhar, who accompanied the team as a representative of certain Indian papers, here recalls the magic moments of a doughty battle, when India turned the tables on dour Yorkshire and the Champion county was well-nigh beaten to her knees.

WEMBLEY PREPARES FOR 1948 OLYMPIAD

LONDON— An enormous amount of preparation is already under way for the 1948 Olympiad, from the laying on of a new approach road to Wembley Stadium to the invention of a flame that will not go out, according to the preliminary report of the Olympic Organising Committee.

The flame, according to tradition, must be kindled on Mount Olympus in Greece by the aid of the sun's rays and a magnifying glass and carried in an inextinguishable torch right across Europe by relays of runners, and kept alight day and night at Wembley as the "Olympic Flame" in all weathers for a fortnight — and England's weather presents a real problem

Seventeen sports make up the programme. There will also be competitions in literature, sculpture, painting, architecture and music.

An army of 5,000 strong, of competitors and officials, is coming from all over the world and all have to be housed. That in fact, is the greatest organisation problem of all. A Government Committee is considering how this can be done. Obviously you cannot have the athletes scattered all over the vastness of London and the only solution may be the construction of an Olympic village on the spot.

Wembley will have to close their normal activities, such as speedway and dog-racing, as the tracks for these sports must temporarily disappear to make room for the Olympic running tracks.

Bridge Notes

Winning Contract

By Howard Schenken And Richard L. Frey

The bidding was long and rather tortuous because of the part score, but the final contract was not unusual on the face of the North-South cards. South had two losing clubs and simply needed a successful heart finesse to make his game contract. As it happened, the finesse was doomed to failure, but South happened to know that here are more ways of killing a cat than drowning it in clam chowder.

West opened the king of clubs and continued with the queen when his partner played the encouraging six-spot. For no good reason, West then shifted to spades—perhaps fearing that South would ruff a third club and discard his spade losers on dummy's hearts. East put up the queen of spades and South won with the ace, concealing the fact that he also had the spade king. South now had to avoid the loss of a heart trick.

There was no good reason to rush the heart finesse, so declarer quite properly began to lead out a long line of trumps. On the second trump, East discarded an emphatic eight of hearts. Since East was a guileless player, South saw no reason to doubt the discard; East surely had the king of hearts.

South therefore continued his trumps, discarding three hearts from the dummy! East feared that South had the last club, so saved the club ace. He also reasoned that South must have only one heart if he ignored the chance of finessing. Hence East blanked his king of hearts. West also obliged with a heart discard. That allowed South to take the heart ace, return to his hand with the spade king, and win the last trick with the five of hearts! Deception had saved the day.

Both sides vulnerable
North-South, 60 part-score
North dealer

NORTH
♠ 7 5
♡ A Q 10 4
◇ A Q 10
♣ 9 8 5 3

WEST
♠ J 9 8 6 3 2
♡ 9 6
◇ 6 3
♣ K Q J

EAST
♠ Q 10 4
♡ K J 8 7 2
◇ J
♣ A 10 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A K
♡ 5 3
◇ K 9 8 7 5 4 2
♣ 7 4

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♡	Pass	2◇	2♠
3◇	3♠	4◇	Pass
Pass	4♠	5◇	Pass
Pass	Dbl.	All Pass	

Our Delhi Letter

Fiasco Of Employment Exchanges

NEW DELHI.

Life is full of paradoxes, Hitler's Germany had a Minister of Justice. The Government of India has a Director of Navigation!

It is easy to create Organisations in the Government of India. All that is needed is to publish a Resolution in the Gazette of India. The Supply Department was created with a part-time Member of the Executive Council and Sir Hugh Dow as Secretary. Today it is the biggest Department in the Government of India.

Dr. Ambedkar, when Labour Member of the Government of India, created Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission, with Mr. A. N. Khosla as its Chairman. Today it has two members, three Directors, two project officers, one Secretary and one Assistant Secretary.

It is expanding, although Irrigation, Whaterways and river navigation are all provincial subjects. They have been provincial subjects since 1821. One member and one Director of the Commission are in charge of Navigation.

The Great Project

The total length of waterways in India affording perennial flow amounts to about 25,000 miles, comprising ten thousand miles of rivers and fifteen thousand miles of canals. Of the former, approximately six thousand miles are navigable to a minimum of about three feet, draught, and of these about five thousand miles are in Bengal and Assam. The canals are mostly for irrigation, but it is estimated that about four thousand miles would be suitable for power-driven craft and the remaining eleven thousand miles could be utilised for boat traffic. According to Commission's estimate about two hundred and fifty million tons of goods were carried over Government maintained channels before the war. This is approximately one per cent of the pre-war traffic by railways.

The question of improving India's natural waterways is receiving the close attention of the Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission, it is disclosed here. Among the potential new navigable waterways discovered by the Commission are five in Bengal including a canal to connect the Port of Calcutta with the coalfields of Bihar and Bengal two each in Bihar, United Provinces and Orissa, one each in Assam, Central Provinces, Madras and Punjab. The Central Provinces project may connect the Bay of Bengal with the Arabian Sea.

Principal Snag

The Commission has urged that India should have "a unified control over her navigable rivers and canals in the interests of All India Navigation, in place of the existing provincial division of responsibility." It would be better if the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Khosla, obtained the views of Mr. Jinnah, the Provincial Governments, and Indian States on his proposal. His own member, Mr. Cowasji Bhabha tried to convert the Provincial Governments in favour of a Unified All India Mineral Policy last month. He was opposed by the Congress and the League Provincial Ministers alike. Mr. Khosla, as the Chief Engineer, in the Punjab three years ago held different views.

As for his navigation, schemes for Bengal, Assam and Orissa are understandable. The projects of the United Provinces for example, when railway lines operate on both the banks of rivers are understandable only in Mr. Khosla's Organisation. Then again, the principal snag of the Government of India's planning is that it is entirely un-co-related to categories of plan as also to finances of the country. In this game crores have ceased to have a meaning. Unless the productivity of the country was increased, any effort to direct the freight to river craft will be recognised it will be at the cost of the existing carriers particularly the railways. The railways, I may add, is the biggest national asset today. It is already a sick man of the Indian Fiscal system. The road transport has made it sick. Will it be wise to create another source of competition for the railways, as in the United Provinces and Bihar? Then again, has Mr Khosla's Organisation examined the railway development plan in order to ascertain whether its pet scheme will be financially sound.

From Our Special Correspondent

Training of the unwanted drivers. An Act from the tragi-comedy of Resettlement Directorate—and in minor key: A Navigator at Sea!

Four more points. Firstly, as has been recognised by the Planning Board, the bulk of the twenty million acres which would become irrigated under Mr. Khosla's projects will be land already under cultivation. Secondly the multi-purposes projects, according to Mr. Khosla, will increase India's total installed electricity generating capacity by about 950,000 K. Ws. in five years time. It is not yet known whether the cost of generating electricity per unit will be at commercial rates.

An idle man's brain is a planners workshop. It is difficult to understand why these unnecessary high sounding posts were created in advance of their necessity. The planning Board which has just reported has wisely recommended that Mr. Khosla's Commission and the Central Technical Power Board should be merged in a single Organisation.

* * *

AT THE END OF 1946, AS MANY AS 2,91,552 APPLICANTS WERE WANTING JOBS AT THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN INDIA. THE NUMBER OF MEN WAITING FOR JOBS AT THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER 1946 WAS 2,70,265. IN OTHER WORDS, 21,287 MEN WERE ADDED TO THE WAITING LIST IN DECEMBER ALONE.

According to its own returns, the Exchanges "placed" 10,570 men during December. As against 60.245 men were released from the Armed Forces during December. From V. J. Day to the end of December 1 132,807 men were released from the Indian Army. 16,792 ratings from the Navy and 9,048 airmen, 9,084 enrolled followers and 84 non-combatants from Indian Air Force.

Twin Misfortunes

This gives a total of 1,167,785. It will be evident that the Great Dispensation called the Re-Settlement Directorate has not touched a fringe of the employment problem. Meanwhile, two sets of misfortunes has befallen this merry-go-round. Firstly, the Advice Offices of the Re-Settlement Directorate will shortly be closed. Nearly sixty Resettlement Advice Offices all over India, started early in 1946 by the Directorate-General of Re-Settlement and Employment, Labour Department, Government of India, to advise demobilised service personnel securing employment in civilian life—will virtually cease to function from April this year, according to information available in Bombay.

This will mean that the five hundred officers who at present conduct these officers will themselves be out of employment.

The Resettlement Advice Service was started by Government initially for a period of one year during which period demobilisation was expected to be completed. Demobilisation has proceeded according to expectations. It is stated, and with its completion, the Resettlement Advice Offices will also practically close down.

The Staff of the Resettlement Advice Offices now comprises a Director General, a Chief Resettlement Advice Officer, six Deputy Chief Officers one hundred and sixteen officers, one hundred and fifty assistant officers, and one hundred and ninety-seven extra officers.

The System At Work

Secondly, the Provincial Governments, generally have declined to recruit military drivers for civil employment. Let me quote the whole episode. At a meeting recently held here, the Director-General, Resettlement, re-stated the case for the employment of as many ex-service men as possible in road transport concerns and explained that the Central Government viewed this problem also from the wider aspect of the danger of increased unemployment if such personnel were not employed. He said that 1,80,000 motor drivers were due to be released from the services by March, 1947; 64,500 drivers and four thousand driver mechanics had already been released and there are thirteen thousand men on Employment Exchange lists who were in search of employment. Furthermore, training of motor drivers was being carried out on systematic lines, and this could only be continued if some idea could be given of the requirements of the various Provinces and of the standard of training which was required.

A difficulty which ex-service personnel were experiencing was that they had no vehicles on which to undergo their tests, and the Director-General hoped that Provincial Governments would be able to assist in this matter. He would also be glad to know to what extent Provincial Governments were prepared to exempt ex-service personnel from the driving test fee. It was pointed out that this information had been supplied by all Provincial Governments.

P.M.T.Cs. stated in most cases that Provincial Governments were anxious to assist ex-service personnel as far as possible, but it was generally agreed that the standard both of general intelligence as well as driving skill was far lower amongst ex-service personnel than it is among existing civilian drivers. It was also emphasised that in all Provinces existing staff would not be dismissed to make vacancies. The replies given by the different P.M.T.Cs. to the three points on which the Director-General, Resettlement had asked for information were as follows.

Progress—A Provincial Roundup

Madras: The Provincial Government are planning a scheme of road transport nationalisation and it is at present impossible to estimate the number of ex-service drivers who will be required, but it is also impossible to guarantee that any large number will be absorbed in the next few months.

Bombay: It will be eighteen months before the Provincial scheme of road transport nationalization will involve any expansion of existing staff so that very few ex-service men will be required for at least eighteen months. Thereafter possibly one thousand men will be required. The Bombay Government have no vehicles which they can provide for testing ex-service personnel and in their opinion the Military Authorities ought to provide such vehicles. Alternatively such personnel should undergo their tests before they are demobilised. The Provincial Government had agreed to exempt ex-service men from the driving test fee but had now withdrawn this concession. The P.M.T.C. undertook to take this up with his Government.

Bengal: The Provincial Government recruited two hundred ex-service men as motor drivers but found them very disappointing owing to their low standard. In spite of this about one hundred and fifty of them are being kept on in employment. The Provincial Government has under consideration a maintenance scheme for all Government vehicles in Bengal and ex-service men would be employed on this scheme. Up to date the Government have been lending their vehicles for driving tests, in spite of the risk attaching thereto, but they agreed with the Bombay Government on this point.

United Provinces: All Departments of Government had been instructed to take on as many ex-service men as possible.

Punjab: In the nationalisation scheme there will be little scope for motor drivers but there is likely to be a good deal of room for driver mechanics who have been found generally to be of a high standard. The Provincial Government are anxious to form co-operative societies of ex-servicemen to run good services and they are prepared to give up to two hundred permits to them for this purpose. The Provincial Government will co-operate as far as possible in providing their own vehicles for testing.

Bihar: All road transport operators had been advised to fill new vacancies by the appointment of ex-service personnel and they sent in monthly lists of the number of men so appointed. Persuasion but not force was used on these operators.

Central Provinces: The position is the same as in Bihar.

Assam: A number of ex-service personnel had already been employed and more would be employed as vacancies occur, even though they have not been found very satisfactory.

N.W.F.P.: The Provincial Government are anxious to employ as many ex-service personnel as possible but the number required will depend upon the scheme of road transport nationalisation, the date for the commencement of which has not yet been determined. Some of the existing staff of road operators have bad records and are likely to be dismissed so that there will be a certain amount of scope for the employment of ex-service drivers and mechanics.

Orissa: There were only forty-two ex-servicemen registered as motor drivers in the Province, some of whom could be absorbed.

Sind: The Provincial Government are anxious to employ ex-service men whenever vacancies offer but it had been found that their standard was very low and the majority of them failed in their tests.

Delhi: Ex-service drivers have been found to be of no use in Delhi Province and the standard must be raised.

Undeterred by these refusals, the Director-General continues to train these drivers. This is called the height of optimism.

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'Take It Over From Us As A Going Concern'

BEVIN APPEALS TO INDIA TO AVOID CIVIL WAR AT RECEPTION TO ASAF ALI

INDIA'S HAND OF FRIENDSHIP IS HELD OUT TO EVERYONE,—TO GREAT BRITAIN, TO RUSSIA, TO THE UNITED STATES, TO EVERYONE, DECLARED MR. ASAF ALI, AT A RECEPTION GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR IN LONDON.

LONDON, Feb. 15 (Reuter): A strong plea to India to avoid civil strife and prove an example to the world by carrying out her transition in a peaceful way was made by Mr. Earnest Bevin, the British Foreign Secretary, when he attended a dinner given by the India Association and Institute at India House last night in honour of Mr. Asaf Ali, the Indian Ambassador-Designate to the United States.

MR. BEVIN, WHO WAS GREETED BY CHEERS FROM A LARGE ATTENDANCE WHICH INCLUDED CABINET MINISTERS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC CORPS, INDIAN BUSINESSMEN, STUDENTS AND WORKERS SAID, "MY TASK IS CONCERNED NOT SO MUCH WITH INDIA, BUT TO KEEP THE 'RING.' I HAVE TO LOOK OUT FOR ALL OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AND GIVE LORD PETHICK LAWRENCE A CHANCE TO SETTLE INDIA. OUR GREAT DESIRE, HOWEVER, IS TO SEE INDIA START OFF AS A GOING CONCERN AND NOT SUFFER ANY DISRUPTION IN CIVIL LIFE—NOT TO ENGAGE IN A CIVIL WAR OF ANY KIND.

AVOID CIVIL WAR

"I can speak for the whole cabinet when I say that our desire is to see India—Muslim, Hindu and the rest—joined together and taken over from us as a going concern. That would be a great tribute not only to the British Government, but to the entire British Commonwealth. That is what we hope, that is what we pray for, that is what we are striving for.

"Too many countries, 'continued Mr. Bevin, "have had to secure their liberty through strife. There is no war so hard, so troublesome—no war which takes so many generations to overcome—as a civil war. It is far worse than any external war. I have seen it. I have seen brother against brother, father against mother. It is one of the most disastrous of all wars."

Mr. Bevin's voice rose to a high-pitched roar, as thumping the table, he declared, "I have joined with my colleagues in every endeavour to ensure that this great sub-continent of India—this amazing mass of people—will show the world that not only have their cries for liberty been heard, but that they were able to exercise it when it came.

KEY POSITION

"Often, in the Foreign Office, I stand and look at the map of the world. I see the Indian Ocean and the great contour of the sub-continent of India and ask myself." Will India be a stabilising place for peace in the world?" I see the treat Russian imperialism and the financial imperialism of the United States and see ourselves in the middle, establishing liberty wherever we can. I say to myself will trere be conflict? Will there be war? Will those great countries clash and bring us into a war more terrible than anything we have ever known?"

"And then I say "India is the key to the situation. If that key can be held in security and peace then the peace of the world can be held for hundreds of years. Let you resolve therefore, not to fight over your difficulties and start another world struggle, but unite and taking into your own hands the liberty for which you have struggled so long, make it a blessing to the world for generations to come"

MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED WAR

Mr. Asaf Ali, who was cheered loudly as he rose to speak, said I am overwhelmed by expression of genuine sympathy which sprang from Mr. Bevin tonight. If his words are broadcast to my country, my people will know that there are people over here who feel the same as they do. They understand sincerity when it comes from the heart.

"India today is not the India of a few years ago as it was known to the world. As Mr. Bevin says we occupy a key position in the world. Long before the last war broke out, it was my privilege—and my disappointment—to point out to British Government's representatives in Delhi, the great arsenal in India which, if it were prepared in time, might haye prevented war. If the agreement which we had been struggling to reach on April 10, 1942 had been reached, India with its immense man-power and resources could have reduced by a couple of years the age of the last war.

NEED FOR CO-ORDINATION

"However, all is well that ends well. Let us begin afresh and build up a happier world—a better world—by co-ordinating human activity the world over. What, after all, is civilisation? man-power, skill and natural resources of the world. When we bring these together in harmony, we create civilisation.

"But all this requiries co-ordination throughout the whole world and that is what India is striving for. I go to the United States with this message—the message of peace and prosperity to everyone.

India's hand of friendship is held out to everyone—to great Britain to Russia, to the United States, to everyone. Those who value India for what it is—those who recognise its key position—let them grasp our hand and be friends.

"India has immense resources. With the great projects we have in view you will not recognise India in five years. We have land, rivers, mines and hydro-electric power and can be a great bulwark of peace throughout the world.

India today is one of the few countries with a sound economy and provided we can settle down to productive activity—provided these difficulties of civil war are eliminated—we can make that structure of economy benefit the whole world.

Nobody is more fully aware of the disastrous effects of a civil war than we are, but we are also conscious of the international disaster which twice within the past 25 years the west has presented to the world. The accumulated wealth of centuries has gone to the bottom, leaving behind a shattered world. It is a wreck that cannot be repaired unless and until the world is treated not as a monopoly of one race, but the home of all human beings living in peace and prosperity.

FULLEST ASSURANCE

"I give you the fullest assurance", concluded Mr Asaf Ali, "that my country will co-operate with Britain, Russia, America— everyone — to rebuild this world on friendship and cooperation. Let us leave for the next generation something of which they can be proud. That is what India wants. As for freedom, India psychologically morally, and by her firm determination, is free. There is no power on earth that will prevent India's freedom.

"It is merely a question of time until our problems are solved and we look to Britain in our new relationship to help us to solve those problems. In turn you may rest assured that in your time of need, you will not find us wanting."

The other speakers were Dr. Shakir Mohmadi, President of the India Association, Lord Pethick Lawrence, the Secretary of State for India, Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, Personal Representative in Europe of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sir Samuel Runganadhan, the Indian High Commissioner and Dr. P. C Bhandari.

PLANE FOR RECEPTION IN AMERICA

NEW YORK: Mr. Asaf Ali will be accorded a warm reception when he arrives in New York on Wednesday from London to take up his appointment as the first Indian Ambassador to the United States. Mr Asaf Ali will make a brief stay in New York before proceeding to Washington.

In addition to being received by State Department officials, he will be met at the airport by Mr. B. R. Sen India's Minister in Washington representatives of the India League of America, India Society of America, officials of the India Merchant Navy Club and other Indian organisations in New York.

The message of welcome prepared by the India League of America reads: "The India League of America extends cordial welcome to you as you being the vital mission that will affect relations of the two nations and the destiny of mankind. We offer you our hospitality and co-operation."

ASAF ALI TO DEPART ON TUESDAY

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 15: Mr. Asaf Ali is not leaving till Tuesday.

INDIAN SITUATION GETTING CONFUSED

GLASGOW, Feb. 14 (Reuter): The view that the Indian political scene becomes more crowded and confused as weeks pass is expressed by the independent "Glasgow Herald" in an editorial to-day.

The newspaper says that the contention of the absentee Muslim members of the Interim Government was briefly that as they were first to accept the scheme for the Interim Government, they have at least as much right to retain their positions as the Hindus who only gave their assent after a preliminary refusal and that, when the latter reversed their decision, they did so with such qualifications as to make their sincerity suspect.

PARIS, Feb. 14 (Reuter): The French Cabinet today approved the text of the French proposals for Anglo-French Alliance presented by M Georges Bidault, Foreign Minister, who reported that negotiations between Britain and France were progressing "very favourably".

Br. Papers Keep Mum Over Bevin's Declaration

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 15: Morning papers did not publish Bevin's declaration which, Mr. Asaf Ali said, would cheer the people in India.

Gen. Mohan Singh To Join Congress

LAHORE, Feb. 15 (API): General Mohan Singh of the Azad Hind Fauj in a statement to-day said that he had decided to join the Indian National Congress and reminds all his countrymen and particularly his comrades of the Azad Hind Fauj that 'your country is not yet free."

JOIN THIS NOBLE ENDEAVOUR

He says: "Inactivity is death. Your sacrifices will be a glorious chapter in the history of freedom movement. But you must remember that your country is not yet free. Our beloved Netaji's wish is still unfulfilled. The Union Jack is still flying over the Red Fortress of Delhi. I appeal to you for action again. I have made up my mind to join the Indian National Congress. Very soon I will give a practical shape to this decision. I earnestly appeal to all the comrades of Azad Hind Fauj to join this noble endeavour."

2 KILLED IN POLICE-DACOIT CLASH

AHMEDABAD, Feb. 15 (A.P.I.): A police head constable and a dacoit are reported to have been killed and a Police Patel injured in a 14-hour gun battle between a police party and four dacoits in a village in Ahmedabad District.

The police, it is stated, surrounded the house in which the dacoits with their wives were taking shelter. A head constable entered the house to arrest the dacoits, who opened fire seriously injuring the head constable and a Police Patel. The police thereupon opened fire which continued for about 14 hours. Three of the dacoits escaped while the fourth was shot dead. One of the wives of the dacoits who took part in the battle was also arrested.

The head constable later died in the hospital.

BOMBAY MILLIONAIRESS ROBBED IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 14 (Reuter): Scotland Yard detectives are to-day searching for a cyclist who last night stole a handbag containing £150 in cash and an 18 caret gold cigarette case from Mrs. Getrude Wadia, member of a family of well-known Bombay millowners.

Mrs. Wadia was walking along a West Street when a man jostled her, grabbed her handbag, jumped on a bicycle and rode off.

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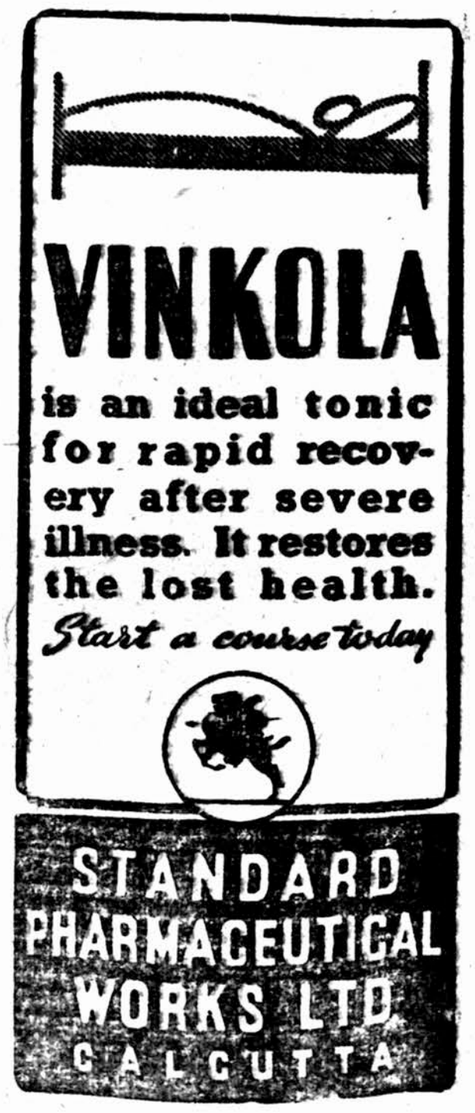
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Sardar's Ultimatum To Wavell

"Either League Gets Out Or We Quit Government"

Reversal Of Karachi Decision Alone Will End Crisis

NEW DELHI, February 15. (A.P.A.): Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Home Member in the Government of India, declared in an interview today that Congress would withdraw from the Viceroy's Cabinet if the Muslim League members were allowed to remain under "the present conditions".

Congress leaders have asked the British Government either to require the Muslim League to share in drafting a new Constitution or to leave the Cabinet.

"Unless the Muslim League gets out", said Sardar Patel, "we will go out".

Sardar Patel added that the situation would, however, be changed if the League reversed its recent decision taken in Karachi, and decided to share in framing a Constitution for an Independent India.

LEAGUE WILL NOT QUIT

LAHORE, Feb. 15 (A.P.I.): The question of the Muslim League quitting the Interim Government does not arise as the Congress, too, in fact has not accepted the Cabinet Mission's scheme, declared Mr. I. I. Chundrigar, Commerce Member in the Interim Government, commenting on the reported cleavage among the Members of the Interim Government in an interview to the Associated Press of India today.

He said that the present attitude of the Congress left no alternative for the Muslim League but to reject the May 16 plan which according to the Congress interpretation would not grant the Muslims even their diluted demand for the grouping of Muslim majority provinces.

Mr. I. I. Chundrigar, interviewed by the United Press of India said that the success of the Cabinet Mission's Plan as well as the solution of the constitutional deadlock depended on both the parties agreeing to work it out.

The Cabinet Mission's Scheme, he continued, was a "via media" between the extreme demands put forth by the Congress and the Muslim League. If both the parties were prepared to give up part of the demands, then alone it could be workable.

CABINET TO DISCUSS NEHRU'S LETTER

LONDON, Feb. 15 (Reuter): It is understood that the British Cabinet is likely to consider at a meeting next week the representations made by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to the Secretary for India, Lord Pethick-Lawrence, on what is described as untenable position of Muslim League members functioning in the Interim Government while the League still remains outside the Constituent Assembly. The Muslim League's communication to the Secretary of State on the same subject will doubtless be discussed at the same time.

NO NEWS IN LONDON

No official confirmation is yet forthcoming on reports from India that Pandit Nehru has sent a reminder to the Government through the Viceroy that his communication still awaits an answer, cables Fraser Wighton, Reuters Political Correspondent. Political quarters however are assuming that this is the case.

JOSHI'S OPTIMISM

CALCUTTA, Feb. 15 (APA.) N. M. Joshi, General Secretary of the All-India Trade Union Congress, expressed the belief here today that "there is every likelihood of peaceful transference of power in India" because, he said, the British people had realised they would no longer maintain their hold "against unanimous opinion in the country."

Answering questions at an interview with the Associated Press of America, the 68-year-old labour leader observed:

"I think the Congress and the League will come to a compromise. There is only talks of civil war. But when such a situation will become a reality, they will come to a compromise."

11.69 Crores' Drop In Railways Net Surplus

Record Traffic Receipts On Government Owned Lines

Five-Year Post-War Plan Of All-Round Improvement: Board's Report On Restoration Of Services And Other Amenities

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15 (A.P.I.): Payment of Rs. 32 crores to General Revenue, the transfer of Rs. 6.2 crores to the Railway Reserve Fund, the purchase of eighty per cent of railway requirements of material in India, the restoration of a number of train services and the preparation of the five year post-war plan for railways are some of the important features of the Railway Board's report for 1945-46. The report also brings out the fact that the railways net surplus dropped from 49.8 in 1944-45 to Rs. 38.2 crores during the year under review.

The gross traffic receipts of Indian Government Railways broke all past records and showed an increase of 9.36 crores over the previous year. The surplus however showed a fall of 11.69 crores as compared with the previous year, as the ordinary working expenses went up grant of more liberal dearness allowance and additional staff, to greater losses on grain shops.

By far, the greater portion of the capital on Indian Government owned lines, is Government capital and only 1/376 is owned by companies etc.

MENON GOING TO CHINA ON FEB. 24

Small Staff To Accompany Ambassador-Designate

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15, (A.P.I.): Mr. K. P. S. Menon, India's Ambassador-Designate to China, plans to leave Delhi on February 24, and is expected to arrive in Nanking by the afternoon of February 27.

Mr. Menon will be accompanied by a small staff to enable his office to take over from the British Embassy, work connected with passports, visas, etc., among other functions.

MAHATMA AT RAIPURA

RAIPURA, (Noakhali) Feb. 15 (API.) Mahatma Gandhi arrived at Raipura at 8-10 this morning. He left West Keroa at 7-30 a.m.

He will stay at Raipura for two days and two nights and leave for Debipur on the morning of Feb. 17.

Raipura is the thirtyninth village from the beginning of Mahatma Gandhi's tour.

MAHATMA CONDEMNS CO-OPERATION THROUGH VIOLENCE

WEST KEROA, (Noakhali), Feb. 14, (U.P.I): "It would be sad for India if it tries to build up a co-operative society through violence," declared Mahatma Gandhi speaking at his prayer meeting here yesterday.

Replying to a question Gandhiji said that the land belonged to the State. Therefore it would and must return, when it was worked co-operatively. "Let it be remembered," added Gandhiji "that co-operation should be based on strict non-violence. There was no such thing as success of violent co-operation. Hitler is a forcible illustration. He also talked vainly of co-operation which was forced upon people. And every one knows where Germany was led as a result of this".

Standardisation Of Equipment Material

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15, (A.P.A.): The Inter-American Defence Board, today, announced that it had recommended to all the American Republics to standardize the equipment material and training of the Western Hemisphere land, sea and air forces.

The Board which includes the military, naval, and air representatives of 21 American republics made its recommendations public by removing certain of its documents from "confidential" classification.

Gloucester Receives Asaf Ali

LONDON, Feb. 14 (Reuter). The Duke of Gloucester today received the honourable Mr. Asaf Ali, Indian Ambassador-Designate to the United States of America.

League Flag On Roof Of Jail

Girl Prisoners' Daring Deed: Punjab Govt. Discredits Rumour

LAHORE, Feb. 15, (A.P.I.): The Punjab Government issued the following press communique today: "The Punjab Governments attention has been drawn to a rumour current in Lahore that some women prisoners have died and others received injuries in the women's jail, Lahore, as a result of maltreatment by the jail staff. This is entirely baseless and unfounded. The fact is that some of the girl prisoners climbed on the roof of the jail and planted a Muslim League flag there. They also raised slogans. Those responsible for planting the League Flag were brought down by the jail staff and were lodged in their rooms as their action was against the jail rules".

BAN ON NEWS CONTINUE

The Punjab Government has extended for another ten days the order prohibiting the newspapers in the Punjab to publish any comment (including headlines thereto) any statement or report which is not official, any correspondence or article concerned with or bearing on the agitation against the provisions of the Punjab Public Safety Ordinance without its previous submission for scrutiny to the Assistant Provincial Press Adviser, Punjab.

JINNAH PROLONGS HIS STAY AT MALIR

KARACHI, Feb. 15, (A. P. I.): Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the All-India Muslim League who has been resting at Malir, ten miles from Karachi has prolonged his stay there by a few days more. He had originally planned to leave Karachi for Bombay by the middle of this month.

Mr. Jinnah's future programme is not yet settled.

CONGRESS-LEAGUE UNITY IMPOSSIBLE

Internal Conflict Will Not Allow India To Be World Power, Says Aung San

RANGOON, Feb. 15 (A.P.A.): "India will not become a world power because her internal politics will not permit it," declared Aung San, President of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, addressing the fifth session of the League's Supreme Council today.

Aung San, discussing the Frontier Areas problem, compared the issue with India's problems and said Burma and her frontier areas have come closer as a result of the Panglong conference, while the Muslim League and the Congress would never achieve unity.

ALEXANDRIA, Feb. 15, (Reuter): British evacuation of Alexandria, the second largest town in Egypt, was completed today when the Egyptian flag was formally hoisted over Hom el Dikk Fort.

STOP PRESS

NATIONALISTS CAPTURE SHANTUNG CAPITAL

NANKING, Feb. 15, (U.P.A.): Government troops have captured Lin-yi, Communist capital of Shantung province, thus achieving the primary objectives of the offensive which began in late January, it was announced today.

AGROUND SHIP ATTACKED

LONDON, Feb. 15. (Reuter): Hundreds of armed tribesmen have attacked the Egyptian ship "Star of Mex" aground in the Persian Gulf, and forced the crew to abandon the vessel to save their lives, according to radio messages received in London today.

Shahriar To Lead Delegation To Asian Conference

BATAVIA, FEB. 15 (REUTER). DR. SULTAN SHAHRIAR, PREMIER OF THE INDONESIAN REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT WILL HEAD THE DELEGATION TO THE INTER-ASIATIC RELATIONS CONFERENCE DUE TO OPEN IN NEW DELHI ON MARCH 23.

232 New Members For Parliament

Soekarno To Give More Seats To Nationalists And Socialists

BATAVIA, Feb. 15 (Reuter). Dr. I. R. Soekarno, President of the Indonesian Republic, has appointed 232 new members to the Republican Preliminary Parliament.

They will be sworn in at Malang, Java, on February 26, the Republican News Agency Antara stated.

The seats were allocated as follows: Workers Party 29; Christian Party 5; Catholic Party 2; Communist Party 33; Unorganised Workers Group 40; Farmers Group 40; Sumatra Delegation 50; Borneo Delegation 8; Celebe Delegation 10; Moluccas Delegation 5e Soenda Islands Delegation 5; Chinese two; Arabs one; and Dutch two.

It was stated that the Masjoemi (Muslim) Party had not yet submitted its list of candidates. Dr. Soekarno considered that allocation of additional seats to nationalists and socialists was necessary. It was added.

Bill To Wipe Out Racial Restrictions On U. S. Immigration

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (UPA). Senator William Langer today introduced a bill to repeal all Oriental exclusion laws and wipe out racial restrictions on immigration and naturalization in the United States.

LATEST BAZAR QUOTATIONS

BOMBAY, Saturday 9 p.m.

	Rs.	As.
Cotton March	436	12
Silver Chamber	142	0
Ready Silver	155	8
Fagan Silver	146	12
Gold Bullion	106	8
Fagan Gold	103	10

LATEST COMMERCIAL NEWS

NEW YORK COTTON (MARCH)

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.

Previous Closing	33.25
Today's Opening	33.30
Difference	+5
Today's Closing	33.65
Difference	+40

Colds Are Dangerous

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Govt. Out To Encourage Co-operative Farming

Anti-Fragmentation Bill Goes To Select Committee

BOMBAY, Saturday.

THE BILL FOR THE PREVENTION OF FRAGMENTATION AND FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS WAS REFERRED TO A SELECT COMMITTEE, WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO REPORT BEFORE TWO MONTHS, BY THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TODAY.

Mr. V. L. Mehta, Finance Minister who was in charge of the Bill, in the absence of his colleague, Mr. Morarji Desai, the Revenue Minister, clarified once again that the Bill did not deal so much with the Fragmentation of holdings as such but of pieces available for cultivation.

He stated that the Bill did not in any way preclude joint or co-operative farming or even consolidation on a co-operative basis. But the evil was of such long standing that it had to be tackled by legislation.

QUESTION OF COLLECTIVE FARMING TO BE TACKLED

Mr. Mehta informed the House that the Government had appointed a special officer to go into the question of joint, collective or co-operative farming; that his report was expected next month and that the Government would take immediate steps to see what financial or administrative assistance it could give to promote such farming.

He also stated that the problem of rural poverty was so vast that it could not be cured by any single piece of legislation. A large number of legislative and administrative steps were under contemplation. Without committing himself on any of those measures, he said that Government was of the view that one of the best means of tackling the problem was to encourage cottage industries so that they would be enabled to give employment to the unemployed and the under-employed.

The following members of the house took part in the debate on the first reading of the Bill this morning. V. V. Kirtane (Thana), D. F. Deshmukh (Ahmednagar), K. B. Dundur (Dharwar), C. J. Ambli (Bijapur), Dr. M. D. D. Gilder. Minister Public Health and Works, H. V. Desai (Ahmedabad) Bhogilal Lala (Ahmedabad) and W. H. Parkar (Ratnagiri).

Mr. B. G. Kher then introduced the Bill to provide for the Management of the Lord Reay Maharashtra Industrial Museum at Poona

PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL

Mr. V. V. Kirtane said that the measure was not in any way detrimental to the interests of the agriculturists, as alleged by the members of the Opposition. The Bill did not seek to create economic holdings but only prescribed standard areas to enable better agricultural production. Redistribution of land was bound to be considered at a later stage and when that stage came he was sure Government would rise to the occasion. Meanwhile, he said a "Russian revolution" could not be created overnight.

Mr. K. B. Dundur, who began his speech in Kanarese, was asked by the Chair whether he could not speak in the English language as the majority of members did not understand him.

Mr. Dundur: I can speak in English but prefer my own language.

The Deputy Speaker: I hope the Hon. Member is aware of the fact that once he makes a speech in his language, he won't be allowed to change over to any other language afterwards.

Mr. Dundur (vehemently): It is my proud privilege to speak in my own mother tongue (Cheers).

The Chair: The Hon. Member need not get excited and may proceed.

In a short speech, Mr. Dundur urged that before any legislation was enacted affecting the agriculturists, the latter ought to be consulted. Great principles ought to be applied methodically, and as the Bill was aimed at the amelioration of the lot of the peasants, it was but in the fitness of things that their views be taken into consideration by the Government before the final legislative process was reached.

That the Bill did not attempt to remove the evil of fragmentation but only prevented the further fragmentation of land was the view expressed by Mr. D. A. Deshmukh in the course of a well-argued speech. The Province of Bombay was a deficit one short of 12 lakhs of tons of food grains and every effort should be made to step up agricultural production. He hoped that the Select Committee would take into consideration all the suggestions advanced by the Maharashtra Congress Committee in a recent resolution. When compensation was sought to be given to a person in a case arising out of partition of a joint family property, it should not be in terms of money, which was bound to be very meagre. but Government should utlise the amount to purchase a piece of land from a bigger landlord and give that land to the dispossessed person. It was not clear to the member whether what was intended in the Bill was the consolidation of holdings and their redistribution or just consolidation without any redistribution. He also recommended that the land owned by a person should be limited by legislation. If there was to be redistribution, it must be such as to ensure maximum production. No person who was an actual producer should be deprived of his land without adequate compensation. He was afraid the provisions of the Bill might result, in some cases, in the lands of the poor peasants passing into the hands of the rich holders.

SUGAR FACTORIES WASTE WATER

Mr. Deshmukh complained that the sugar factories in Ahmednagar District were taking water for 5,700 acres but were using it only for 4,000 acres. The balance, wasted in his view, could be utilised for growing more food. Further, the yield of the factories per acre was lower than that of the peasants, the respective figures being 35 tons of cane and 50 tons of cane per acre.

Dr. M. D. D. Gilder intervening in the debate said that the canal lands of the Ahmednagar District were 'sui generis', a class by themselves. It was a heritage of previous Governments which had invited the sugar factories to the District. The present Government were the heirs of history. Land of the factories and of the "Bagaitdars" was intermixed in this area. These matters, however, would be borne in mind. It was a matter of detail which would be attended to.

As far as the figures relating to the supply of water to the two parties was concerned. the factories got 124 inches per acre and the "Bagaitdars" were getting much more. The factory owners also were claiming more and now there was the claim that they were not getting enough. He was going into the whole figures once again and the House would be informed of the reslits of the inquiry.

He had also found out on inquiry that most of the 'Bagaitdars' were not old holders and had come into possession only ten or 12 years ago. He had asked one of their deputations if they would be prepared to lose land. The answer was that they would lose it if everybody else also lost it. He would make inquiries from individual "Bagaitdars," how much land each one would part with so that a proper scheme of consolidation could be made. These were, however, special problems which would get their due share of attention at the proper time.

RATNAGIRI PLEA FOR EXEMPTION

Mr. W. A. Parkar (Ratnagiri, League) made a plea for the exemption of the District of Ratnagiri from the scheme of consolidation. He explained that this was because of the peculiar nature of the District, its soil and the vagaries of climate. It was fragmentation that Ratnagiri wanted not consolidation.

He said that any scheme of economic reform must be homogenous and adjusted to local needs. And a district like Ratnagiri should have encouragement to horticulture and it would also be good if a geological survey could be undertaken.

The Premier Mr. B. G. Kher intervening remarked that the provisions of the Bill would certainly not be applied to areas which we are not suitable for consolidation and surely nothing in the Bill prevented a geological survey being undertaken anywhere.

Mr. V. L. Mehta, Finance Minister gave a history of the attempts made to remedy the evil of fragmentation both in India and abroad. He pointed out how a scheme of co-operative consolidation was undertaken in the Punjab and despite a considerable measure of success attending those steps it was later found necessary to introduce legislation for the purpose.

Even with this Bill on the Statute Book there would be considerable room for co-operative planning. This was not a piece of legislation which could be worked out by administrative agency alone. Its success would depend on the volume of public opinion that would gather behind it. At the same time it was not possible to leave the solution of such a long-standing evil entirely to the initiative of the people affected by it. The Government had adopted the happy mean of taking the iniative themselves, at the same time leaving room for public opinion to make itself felt in the working out of the scheme. Government had already stated that there would be advisory committees and the District Rural Development Boards also could play a useful part.

As far as the claims for exemption on behalf of Ratnagiri and Ahmednagar districts were concerned. he gave an assurance that the needs of special areas would certainly get every consideration.

The First reading being passed without a division, the Finance Member moved that the Bill should be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members: The Minister for Revenue, the Minister for Law and Messrs. T. S. Jadhav, V. G. Chaudhury, P. P. Gokhale, K. F. Patil, B. J. Patel, Maneklal C. Vakil, S. L. Peje, M. N. Natu, F. T. Zamindar, J. H. Shamsuddin, S. M. Hasan V. P. Pawar, and R. N. Prabhu.

The motion war carried.

BILL FOR MAINTENANCE OF POONA MUSEUM

The Premier, Mr. B. G. Kher then introduced the Bill to provide for the maintenance of the Lord Reay Industrial Museum at Poona. This Museum is at present conducted by a Board of Trustees representing the donors, the Poona City Muncipality and the Government. The powers of the Board of Trustees have not been laid down or defined in any way. The present Bill is intended to make statutory provision for a proper Board for the Museum, define its objects and arrange for its finances and administration.

Moving consideration of the Bill the Premier gave an interesting discourse on Museums, their history and uses. The days when Museums were regarded merely as a collection of dust-laden and curious objects, he said, had gone by. Museums today were considered as vital instruments of education.

The first Museum in India was established at Karachi in 1851. At present there were 105 Museums in India. But they were in a poor state. While a country like England spent eight pence per head of its population on museums, in India it worked out at one thirtieth of a penny per head. The total amount spent on all museums was Rs. 7,20,000.

The measure before the House was an attempt to enable the Poona Museum to fulfil the lofty purpose of educating the people. While books were for literate adults, museums were for everybody, including children.

The Lord Reay museum owed its existence to the work of Justice Ranade who was the first to teach that the economic invasion of India was more dangerous than its political invasion, because it was more insidious and lasting in its effects.

Mr. Kher went on to explain how the Industrial Association of Western

(Continued on Page 15.)

Dr. B. N. DESAI, L. M. & S.

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CITY AND SUBURBS

TODAY

Hindu: Magh Vad 11, 2003.
Muslim: Rabi-ul-Avval 24, 1366.
Parsi: Shehrever 16, 1316.
Sunrise: 7-7 a.m. Sunset: 6-39 p.m.
Hightide: 07-56. 22-35. Lowtide: 03-56. 14-50.

Today's Engagements

EXHIBITION OF COMMERCIAL ART: Organised by Artists in Industry, at the Bombay Art Society Salon, 13, Rampart Row at 4-30 p.m. today Mr. G. D. Tapase, Minister of Industries, will open the exhibition.

HINDUSTAN MAZDOOR SEVAK SANGH: Propaganda meeting at Congress House at 3-30 p.m. today under the presidentship of Sri. S. K. Patil, when Barrister M. Y. Nurie and Sri. H. N. Trivedi will address the audience.

FELICITATIONS FUNCTION: On Mr. K. M. Munshi's diamond jubilee at Blavatsky Lodge at 6-15 p.m. today by various college literary Societies, Sir H. V. Divatia presiding.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: "Maha Shivaratri—Its Meaning, Its Use" is subject of lecture to be delivered at 6-15 p.m. today at Wadia Building, Opp. Flora Fountain.

BOMBAY SPIRITUAL CENTRE: Discourse by Swami Vilasanandji on 'Vivek Chudamani' at 6 p.m. today.

BOMBAY HOMOEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION: The 12th Annual General Meeting (adjourned) will be held today at 3-30 p.m. at 311. Tardeo Road, Nana Chowk.

ALL-INDIA DENTAL ASSN: Annual meeting at 10 a.m. today at 'Greens.'

BOMBAY PRESS EMPLOYEES' UNION: General Body meeting at Cama Hall, near R.I.N. Docks, at 4 p.m. today. Asoka Mehta, will preside.

BYRAMJEE JEEJEEBHOY INSTITUTION OLD BOYS UNION: Gathering in honour of Principal F. M. Dalal, and to the Celebration of Parents' Day, at the Institution Hall, Queen's Road, at 4 p.m. today. Mr. J. R. B. Jeejeebhoy to preside.

BRAHMIN SABHA: Mr. S. R. Sohoni who has returned from U.S. after completing education aeroplane production will deliver a public lecture at 6 p.m. today in premises of Sabha at Charni Road.

MARATHA HIGH SCHOOL: Prize distribution ceremony at Marwari Vidyalaya Hall, Sandhurst Road at 2 p.m. today.

INDIAN NATIONAL THEATRE: Kannada Drama Prapanch Panipat at 9-30 a.m. today by Prof. R. V. Jahagirdar at Sunderbai Hall.

CONGRESSITE NEW WEEKLY

The Chief Presidency Magistrate of Bombay passed the declaration of Mr. Vasant Bajirao Kale to publish and edit a new Weekly entitled "Jay Hind" which will be devoted to matters—staunch Congressite, Non-Communal, International and Indian politics, education, social, rural problems and reforms. The problems relating to the protection and uplift of mankind—liberty, equality and fraternity will also be dealt with prominently.

PRICE OF BRAZIL RICE

Brazil rice will be issued as rice sort I at Rs. 1-4-0 per paylee in Bombay City and the Bombay Suburban District rationed areas with effect from Sunday, February 16, 1947 and the 'Kasania' variety of rice which has been issued as rice sort I upto now will be issued as rice sort II at the rate of Re 0-13-0 per paylee.

The Kasania rice, will now, however, be available as rice cort II unless the existing stock of 'Kangni' rice (i.e sort II) remainng in balance with ration shop is exhausted.

TO-DAY ON RADIO

SUNDAY, Feb. 16.

BOMBAY—1.

244 m. (1,231 kc/s)—7-30 a.m. Song of Week (by D'Amel) 7-40 News (M) 7-50 News (G) 8-0 News (E) 8-15 News (H) 8-30 Pannalal Ghosh (Bansari) 9-0 Garbomandap 9-15 A. P. Narayangaonkar Pad (S. A. Shukla) 9-30 Balgandharva 11-0 Film Music 11-30 Radio Reporter Ki Diary Talk by M. A. Harris (H) 11-45 Laxmi Bai Jadhav (Gunkali Suha).

12-45 p.m. News (M) 12-50 News (G) 12-55 Gajananrao Joshi (Shudh-Sarang Tarana) 1-25 News (H) 1-30 News (E) 1-40 Music 4-20 Suresh Haldankar (Khayal Vilambit aur Drut: Bhimpalas) 4-50 Mirabai Bhajan (Sung by Sham Devre) 5-0 Clarionet 5-15 Programme for children (M) 5-45 Intr. Music 5-55 Locals 6-0 News (E) 6-10 News (H) 6-15 Thumri Aur Dadre 6-30 Sardar Gul Raja (Thumri Ghazal) 6-45 A. P. Narayangaonkar 7-0 Pannalal Ghosh (Bansari) 7-30 Balgandharva (Eman, Pad) 8-0 News (M) 8-15 News (G) 8-30 Shalaman vignan: (by Dr. Suresh Sethna) 8-45 Readings of Marathi Shishu Geeten 9-0 News (E) 9-15 News (H) 9-30 B. B. C. News 9-40 Programme Parade 9-45 Air Orchestra (Compositions of D'Amel) 10-0 Symphonic Hour.

Unmarked Cloth Worth Rs. 16,000 Seized

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The godowns of the Bharat Silk Mills at Kurla were raided on Friday by the C.I.D. under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner More of the Anti-Corruption Branch and about 19,000 yards of 'untexmarked' cloth valued at Rs. 16,000 were seized. This was a sequel to the information received by the Police that time-barred 'untexmarked' cloth were stored in the godown of the mills for black-market purposes.

Eighteen bales of cloth in mill-packed condition without 'texmarks' or price-marks and 19 bags of paddy were seized.

No arrest have so far been made, it is gathered.

COVER PAGE

The Exhibition of the paintings and drawings of MAGDA NACHMAN whose portrait study of Shanta Rao, the well-known classical dancer, appears on the cover page this week, will be opened by Justice Chagla in the Chetana Cultural Centre (Peacock Restaurant), 34 Rampart Row, on Thursday the 20th inst. and will be continued till the 2nd March.

A SOCIETY WEDDING

After dusk, anywhere from Marine Drive, on Monday evening the 10th February, one noticed a spot on Malabar Hill where there was a blaze of electric lights of exceptional brilliance That was 27 Ridge Road the residence of Mrs. Bahsey Sabavala, where the wedding reception of her son Sharokh was to be held and who was married that morning to Roshen Batlivala, the grand-daguhter of Dr. Erachsha Hakim the well-known Homeopath.

Sharokh Sabavala was educated partly in Europe and partly in India He was completing his education Oxford when the World War broke out and he joined up. He took part in the famous Dunkirk retreat, and was transferred to Bombay, where he eventually resigned from the Army He became a journalist under the guidance of Mr. Benjamin G. Horniman with whom he remained over a year. He brought out the journal "World 44" and himself established the "Trend" magazine. He was the youngest press representative at the world famous San Francisco Conference, representing the "Sentinel" 'Chronicle" and Bombay Samachar"

The guests numbered several hundred and the elite of Bombay were present.

Water Supply Scheme For Dharwar And Hubli

POONA Feb. 14, (A.P.I.): A combined water supply scheme for Dharwar and Hibli is to be undertaken by the Bombay Government shortly. The scheme is expected to cost nearly one crore

These two places with a population of over 2,00,000 get their water supply at present from two small tanks but this has been found to be inadequate to meet the needs of the public. With the completion of the proposed project it is hoped that water shortage at present experienced would be overcome.

Jawahar's Plea To Students' Congress

LUCKNOW, Feb. 14, (A.P.I.): Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in a telegram to Mr. R. K. Sinha General Secretary of the All-India Students Congress, says: "Suggest Students Congress cooperating fully in arrangements for reception of touring international youth commission.

The representatives of the All-India Students Congress, including Mr. R. K. Sinha, General Secretary and Mr. Ram Sumer Shukla, former president A.I.S.C. met the delegation in Lucknow.

Congress Socialists Not Wanted For Cochin Politics

TRICHUR, Feb. 14 (A.P.I.): The differences between the rightist and leftist blocks in the Cochin Prajamandal have been settled, according to Mr. Ikkanda Warrier, President, Cochin State Prajamandal. In a statement, Mr. Warrier says that it has now been agreed that the Congress Socialists as a group will have nothing to do with Cochin politics apart from the policy of the Prajamandal.

WEATHER NEWS FOR FARMERS

Forecast Till Monday Morning: Isolated very light showers may occur in the Bombay Karnatak and in Telungana Division of the Hyderabad State.

Ouolook For Further 2 Days: Dry weather with colder nights

BOMBAY, Feb. 14, (A.P.I.) Mr. Burjor K. Fouzdor, Sub-Divisional Inspector of Poice Dahanu, has been appointed as Dy-Superintendent of popolice at Dhulia in West Khandesh District it is learnmt.

VIOLATION OF PLEDGE GIVEN TO CEYLON INDIANS

Wholesale Elimination Of Estate Labourers From Waiting List

COLOMBO, Feb. 14 (API): The Gampla District registering officer has removed from the voting list the names of the Indian labourers already registered there, according to the Gampola District Committee of the Ceylon Indian Congress.

Declaring that the registering officer insists on property qualification or certificate of permanent settlement, the Committee say that he rejects factual test of residence and other evidence of intention to have Ceylon as the claimants' home.

"The procedure followed results in wholesale elimination of plantation workers, and is a gross violation of the Secretary of State's assurance in this connection," the Committee assert.

It was recently reported that the names of about 5,000 Indian labourers were removed from the voters' list, when Mr. Dudley Senanayake was a member of the State Council and the son of the leader of the State Council Mr. D. S. Senanayake objected against their inclusion.

Under the existing laws, Indian estate labourers should have a domicile certificate to get a vote, and it was against the "cumbersome" procedure adopted for certificate that the Ceylon Indian Congress has been long agitating demanding that franchise should be granted on easily ascertainable tests such as five years' continued residence in the island.

Punjab League Leader Dead

LAHORE, Feb. 15, (A. P. I.): Sheikh Mohd. Amin, M. L. A., and member of the Punjab Provincial Muslim League Working Committee and Parliamentary Board, died at 9. this morning of heart-failure at his residence in Lahore. He was 55.

Earthquake Shock At Gauhati

CALCUTTA, Feb. 15, (A. P. I.): An earthquake shock of moderate intensity was felt at Gauhati at 8-15 p.m., last night The tremors lasted two seconds. No damage is reported.

Heavy Price To Get Rich Quick

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A man who tried to augment his wealth with the aid of a "fakir", paid dearly for his superstition and greed.

One Sheik Abdul Sheik Aziz, and a companion of his, it is reported posing themselves as fakirs approached the man and promised to increase his wealth several fold, if he gave them a substantial amount of money. The fakirs it is stated succeeded in getting about five hundred rupees, and escaped with it. Sheikh Abdul was later arrested by the Police.

The Chief Presidency Magistrate to-day ordered him to be released on bail.

'DAWN' BANNED FOR ANOTHER 15 DAYS

LAHORE, February 14. (A.P.I.): The Punjab Government issued an order today under the Punjab Public Safety Ordinance prohibiting the bringing into the Punjab for another period of 15 days any issue of the 'Dawn", an English daily of Delhi, "containing such matter connected with the Muslim League agitation against the provisions of the Punjab Public Safety Ordinance as is not contained in statements and communiques etc. issued officially".

The order says that the 'Dawn' continues to publish matter connected with the agitation which is prejudicial to the public safety or maintenance of public order as a result the Provincial Government is satisfied that for the purpose of preventing or combating such further activity of the said paper it is necessary to take action against it.

'BET' AND 'BHATA' LANDS IN NORTHERN DIVISION

The Government of Bombay has decided that "bet and bhata' lands in the Northern Division should, from June 1, 1947, be disposed of for cultivation on certain conditions. All previous orders issued in this connection have been cancelled.

'Be and bhata' lands which have been newly formed and about which, in the Collector's opinion there are reasonable doubts that they may be wasted away during the floods in the rivers concerned are to be leased on eksali basis by public auction.

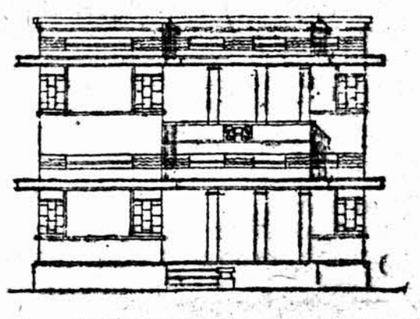
Lands other than those mentioned above, will be considered to be practically permanent and will be disposed of on 10 years' leases at a time.

The leases are liable to be terminated without compensation if the lands are not cultivated or are damaged through negligence or are utilised for growing crops other than food crops and vegetables without the previous permission of the Collector.

Control Of Capital Issues

Consent for an issue of Rs. 5,89,34,240 in respect of 20 companies was given during the week ended February 10, 1947, under the Control of Capital Issues Scheme, according to a statement issued by the Controller of Capital Issues. Of this sum, an issue of Rs. 1 crore and 10 lakhs was granted to a company to acquire the assets of a sterling company for the manufacture of gas and residual products in Calcutta.

The amount of capital to the issue of which consent has been given represents Rs. 3,74,34,240 in respect of Immediate schemes, Rs. 1,60,00,000 for Long-Range schemes and Rs. 55,00,000 for Semi-Long Range schemes.



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Bombay Races

Spectacular Win For Push On In Rajpipla Gold Cup

Talib Saddles Three Winners

(By Our Racing Correspondent)

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The most consistent Indian-bred Push On (Will O' The Wisp—Queen Bee) recorded spectacular win to-day in the day's attractive event, the Rajpipla Gold Cup run over a mile. Kheem Singh did not commit as he had done when losing by shortest margin on this good horse only a week ago in the Kashmir Gold Cup. This time, as usual. the chestnut was ridden in pretty good check but in the straight his pilot took no chances. when sailing home the easy winner. The fancied Flying Pageant was second, while the Gwalior-owned Byculla who had the largest supporting, flattered till the bend and thereafter fell back to nothing.

Himalaya a recent winner turned out the facile winner of the Gulamhusein Essaji Cup run over a distance of 1 1/2 miles.

For Punters, the day was most harassing with only two firm favourites materialising in the programme. The three-year-old Dev Doot scored comfortably from the seasoned Amir Elahi and She's Nice in the first division of the Tansa Plate and on this meritorious performance. he is acclaimed the best youngster of the season.

Trainer Talib had the distinction of saddling the winner of the Rajpipla Gold Cup and also Dev Doot and Himalaya in their respective events Kheem Singh rode Push On and Dev Doot. while young Dar rode a good race on Himalaya for his trainer. Khade who is now a free lance steered home first Belle Starr and Golden Future.

In the concluding event close home, Micky Mouse appeared like prevailing but Hanuman Singh Mannawi who was hugging on the rails for the passage obtained it when less than 20 yards were left to traverse and finishing on resolutely, he had the measure of the Gwalior candidate by a neck. Talisman who placed third lost four lengths at the start.

One-hundred-eleven tickets were cashed on the treble pool event. Each ticket returned Rs. 1,202-8.

The following are the results:—

THE ALI BIN TALIB MEMORIAL PLATE (Div. III). Dist.—7 furlongs.

Mr. Hugo Wachsmann's EGYPT 8-1, Shiba 1
Mr. N. Gunesekere's LION OF LANKA 9-0, Ganesh 2
Rao Saheb D. K. Parker's AL SHANFARA 8-11. Tasi 3
Mr. Baburao T. Godse's SULAF HASSUN 8-10 Dasrath Singh .. 4

Not run: All Gold.
Won by: Nk., 3Ls., 1|2L.
Time: 1 min. 40-2|5 secs.
Favourite: Mars.
Tote paid: Rs. 137 for win, Rs. 43 Rs. 38 and Rs. 36 for places.

THE ALI BIN TALIB MEMORIAL PLATE (Div. II). Dist.—7 furlongs.

Mr. F. A. Irani's MOSAKI PASHA 8-7, Kasbekar 1
Rao Saheb D. K. Parker's NEW JACK 8-13, Dasrath Singh 2
Maharaja of Gwalior's JAHAJ MAHAL 8-2, Chavan 3
M|s. Ahmed Abbas, T. E. Jalal and M. E. G. Patel's JANAB 7-9, Aurobinda. 4

Not run: Qamar Adnan and Dhiban
Won by: 3|4L, hd., 1L.
Time: 1 min. 38-1|5 secs.
Favourite: Jahaj Mahal.
Tote paid: Rs. 163 for win, Rs. 38, Rs. 23 and Rs. 18 for places.

THE TANSA PLATE (Div. I) Dist.—6 furlongs.

Mr. Purshottam Jethabhai's DEV DOOT 8-11, Kheemsingh 1
Mr. T. G. Essaji's AMIR ELAHI 8-9, Damodar 2
Mr. Jacob Heskel's SHE'S NICE 8-8, Jones 3
Mr. H. G. Khairaz's PRINCESS SHERZADE, 7-12, Purtusingh 4

Not run: Raj Nartaki, Aalam Banoo, Hurry On, Invader and Blue Flame.
Won by: 2Ls., 1L, sh hd.
Time: 1 min. 17 secs.
Tote paid: Rs. 31 for win, Rs. 14, Rs. 19 and Rs. 13 for places.
Favourite: Dev Doot.

THE TANSA PLATE. Division II—Distance 6 furlongs.

Rao Saheb D K Parker's BELLE STARR 9-0 P Khade 1
Maharaja of Gwalior's DASHERA 9-4 Chavan 2
Mr Hajee E Dossa's PRINCE CHARMING 7-12 Virsingh 3
Mr S N Dossa's CHIRAG 9-0 Mullsingh 4

Not run: Jadugar, S.O.S., Cake and Peace Treaty.
Won by: Head, Neck, 2 1/2 lengths
Time: 1 minute 17 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 33 Places Rs 15, Rs. 16 and Rs. 19.

THE FEBRUARY PLATE.—Distance 1 mile.

Mr J D Banatwalla's GOLDEN FUTURE 8-12 P Khade 1
Messrs. K K Permanand and Syed Fatah's AMAR KIRTI 8-7 B Khalil 2
Mr P B Avasia's VALIANT PRINCE 8-7 Ganesh 3
Mr Diamond's YALTA 8-7 Kansingh 4

Not run: Belle Starr, Prima Donna, Windsor Park, Damyanti and Inside Information.
Won by: Neck, 3 lengths, 1 1/4 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 43 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 99. Places Rs 28, Rs. 22 and Rs. 56.

THE RAJPIPLA GOLD CUP—Distance 1 mile.

Messrs. Chandulal J Shah and A H Ahmedbhoy's PUSH ON 9-4 Kheemsingh 1
Maharaja of Kashmir's FLYING PAGEANT 9-7 Khalil 2
Sir Homi Mehta's YAWAR 8-1 Jones 3
Mr S M Modi's REPARTEE 8-0 Raffaele 4

Not run: Jarabub and Bucephalus.
Won by: 1 1/4 lengths, 1 length. Head.
Time: 1 minute 39 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 40. Places Rs 25, Rs. 16 and Rs. 23.

THE GULAM HUSEIN ESSAJI CUP—Distance 1 1/2 miles.

Messrs. Hope and Chandulal J Shah's HIMALAYA 8-4 Nasseruddin 1
Mrs. Fatma M. Javeri and Mr S Bundali's THE JUDGE 8-9 Mullsingh 2
Maharaja of Kashmir's ROYAL MANTLE 9-1 B Khalil 3
Maharaja of Gwalior's GENERALISSIMO 8-2 Chavan 4

Not run: Keen Boy.
Won by: 2 1/2 lengths, Neck, Short Head.
Time: 2 minutes 46 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 30. Places Rs 21, Rs. 14 and Rs. 19.

THE ANDHERI PLATE.—Distance 1 1/4 miles.

Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy's VALETTA 9-2 Jones 1
Messrs. F. Piscionieri and Hoosein G Khairaz's ARIEL MAIL 8-7 Cunningham 2
Mr A A Suterwalla's LITTLE CAESAR 8-12 Raffaele 3
Messrs. Lakhia and Mazumdar's HURRICANE 8-5 Damodar 4

Not run: Gipsy Moon, Comet and Jawahir.
Won by: 1 1/4 lengths, 4 lengths, 1 1/4 lengths.
Time: 2 minutes 9 2/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 57. Places Rs. 23, Rs. 17 and Rs. 22.

THE ALI BIN TALIB MEMORIAL PLATE. Division I—Distance 7 furlongs.

Mrs. E. Reuben's MANNAWI 9-10 H Singh 1
Maharaja of Gwalior's MICKY MOUSE 11-0 Jones 2
Mr Diamond's TALISMAN 7-11 Evans 3
Mr Hope's ASSAF MAHMUD 8-10 Kheemsingh 4

Not run: Yisir al Arab, Arabian Star, Desert Gem and Mikhlif Jabir.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 92. Places Rs. 27, Rs. 27 and Rs. 16

EVANS FRUSTRATES VICTORIA BATSMEN

M. C. C. Tail Helps To Reverse Position On Second Day

(From Norman Preston Reuter's Special Correspondent)

MELBOURNE, Feb. 15 (Reuter): Thanks mainly to some audacious hitting by tail-enders particularly Godfrey Evans, the M.C.C. made 355 in their first innings against Victoria on the second day of the four-day return match here today.

Thereby reversed the position, gaining ascendancy today after the opening day's disappointing batting display. Godfrey Evans' brilliant wicketkeeping was responsible for some of this success, as he accounted for four of six wickets taken and had previously given a stylish display of batting for forty-one not out, his highest score of the tour.

Bedsar was the most impressive of the bowlers, especially with the shine on the ball. He early menaced batsmen with swing and pace from the pitch which surprised Miller and unsettled Mervyn Harvey.

Wright bowled deplorably short length in the opening overs when using only the short run. Later he reverted to the normal approach and his hostility increased as a consequence, causing Hassett once again treat him with respect.

Victoria's innings revealed that Australia has another promising left-hander in Neil Harvey, the 18-year old brother of the Test opening batsman. Playing in his second first class match, he confidently faced the position of 32 for three which might have worried many seasoned batsmen. Harvey undaunted made free strokes all round the wicket in a two hours' stay with Hassett who shouldered the responsibility for saving the side from collapse.

SCORE BOARD

M.C. C. (1st Innings continued)

Ikin b Tribe	71
Yardley b Miller	18
Evans, not out	41
Bedsar c M. Harvey b Tribe	11
Pollard l.b.w. Miller	9
Wright c Hassett b Ring	0
Extras	13
Total	355

VICTORIA (1st Innings)

H. Harvey c Evans b Bedsar	10
Meuleman st. Evans b Pollard	14
Miller st. Evans b Bedsar	6
Hassett, not out	68
N. Harvey c Evans b Wright	69
Loxton c Washbrook b Wright	2
Ring b Wright	0
Freer, not out	1
Extras	1
Total (for six wickets) at close	171

J. MEHTA BEATS NARENDRA NATH

Provincial Tennis Championship Matches

BOMBAY, Saturday: After an exciting three-set duel, Jimmy Mehta beat Narendra Nath this evening in the Singles Semi-final of the Bombay Provincial Hard Court Tennis Championships.

Mehta will meet Prem Pandhi in the final tomorrow.

Mehta was unsteady in the first set and Narendra Nath playing confidently took the set without conceding a single game. To those who saw Narendra Nath's great display in the All-India Championship, when he beat Iftikhar Ahmed in the final, there remained little doubt that Narendra Nath would win easily. But Mehta made a great recovery and took the second set at 6-4.

A close fight ensued in the third set and several exciting rallies were witnessed. Three-all, four-all, and five-all were reached before Mehta annexed the set at 7-5 and the match.

Prem Pandhi found little difficulty in eliminating Kantawala, whom he beat 6-0, 6-2.

Mrs. K. Singh beat Mrs. C. V. N. Sastri in the Ladies Singles Semi-final after a three-set match. This is her second victory over the latter this season, the first being at the All-India Championships held here last week. Mrs. Singh will meet Mrs. Dayal in the final.

The following are the results of matches played to-day:—

1. C. L. Savara and Balwant Singh beat J. Charanjiva and C. L. Mehta 6-4, 6-4.
2. Jimmy Mehta beat Narendra Nath 0-6, 6-4, 7-5 (Semi-final).
3. Prem Pandhi beat J. M. Kantawalla 6-0, 6-2 (Semi-final).
4. Mrs. L. Dayal beat Miss L. Woodbridge 6-1, 6-3 (Semi-final).
5. Narendra Nath and Prem Pandhi beat C. L. Savara and Balwant Singh 5-7, 6-3, 6-1, (Semi-final).
6. Mrs. H M. Bishop and C. L. Mehta beat Miss L. Woodbridge and Fateh Singhji of Cutch 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, (Semi-final).
7. Mrs. C. V. N. Sastri and J. C. Dhamija beat Miss Hendricks and O. Sutton 6-1, 6-4.
8. Mrs. K. Singh beat Mrs. C. V. N. Sastri 6-4, 1-6, 6-0 (Semi-final).
9. Miss L. M. Merchant and J M. Mehta beat Miss P. Khanna and Narendra Nath 5-7, 6-4, 6-1.

Sunday's Matches:—

P. J. Hindu Gymkhana Court No. 1. 3-30 p.m. Jimmy Mehta vs. Prem Pandhi (Men's Singles Final).

4-30 p.m. Narendra Nath and Prem Pandhi vs. J. Mehta and Kantawala. (Men's Doubles Final).

Court No. 2:

Mrs. Dayal vs. Mrs. Singh (Ladies' Singles Final).

Mrs. Dayal and Mrs. Singh vs. Mrs. Sastri and Mrs. Merchant (Ladies Doubles Final).

Mr. B. G. Kher, Prime Minister. Bombay, will distribute the prizes tomorrow.

ZONAL CRICKET

WEST ZONE LEAD ON 1ST INNINGS

Rangnekar's Century Saves 2nd Innings Collapse

BOMBAY, Saturday.

WEST ZONE First Innings 269
EAST ZONE First Innings 197
WEST ZONE Second Innings for 6 wickets 224

West Zone led by 72 runs in the first innings when shortly before lunch the last East Zone wicket fell to Vinoo Mankad. But the best performance of the day was that of Ranvirsinhji who bagged three East Zone wickets for 14 runs in seven overs. He varied his pace well and imparted life to the ball, fully deserving all the three wickets he got.

Nimbalker was the top scorer for the East Zone carrying his bat for 76. His innings were noteworthy, however for testing the reputation of some half a dozen fielders.

In their Second Innings, West Zone started very badly. During the short while that remained for play before lunch, Ibrahim and Adhikari had returned to the Pavilion leaving a total of only nine runs on the board.

After lnuch Hazare was dismissed by the very first ball he received. Rangnekar then joined Vinoo and together they started confidently The left-hander was however dropped in the slips by Bannerji of Jagdale when

Vinoo Mankad and Ibrahim the opening batsmen of the West Zone.

he had scored only 9. This proved to be a costly lapse as the Bombay player played freely all round the wicket to complete his century in just a little over two and half hours.

Meanwhile Vinoo was bowled by Sarawate at 104. Modi came in next with Gul Mohammad as runner. He was never quite confident and was eventualy bowled in attempting to force the ball on the off side.

Gul Mohammad who replaced him started patiently. Unused to defensive batting he never appeared to be qiute confident and was bowled by Nayudu some ten minutes before close.

Phadkar helped by Rangnekar played out the time.

EAST ZONE (First Innings)

Bose c Hazare b Ranvirsinhji	30
Jagdale b Phadkar	1
Sarwate c Ibrahim b Hazare	3
Mushtaq l.b.w. b Phadkar	10
Chatterji c Hazare b Ranvirsinhji	35
Nimbalkar not out	76
Bannerji c Maka b Ranvirsinhji	1
Nayudu st. Maka b Elahi	26
Sen b Elahi	7
Gaikwad run out	4
Chowdhary b Vinoo Mankad	0
Extras	4
Total	197

FALL OF WICKETS:— 1/6, 2/13 3/30, 4/78, 5/83, 6/91 7/140, 8/156, 9/197 and 10/197.

BOWLING ANALYSIS

	O	M	R	W
Phadkar	8	1	32	2
Hazare	9	3	31	1
Vinoo Mankad	9.6	3	23	1
Amir Elahi	15	2	93	2
Ranvirsinhji	1	1	14	3

WEST ZONE (Second Innings).

Ibrahim l.b.w. b Bannerji	4
Vinoo Mankad b Sarwate	43
Adhikari l.b.w. b. Bannerji	0
Hazare l.b.w. b Bannerji	0
Rangnekar batting	130
Modi b Chowdhary	15
Gul Mohammad b Nayudu	19
Phadkar batting	5
Ranvirsinhji Amir Elahi Maka to bat	
Extras	8
Total	224

FALL OF WICKETS:— 1/8, 2/9, 3/9, 4/104, 5/151 and 6/219

BOWLING ANALYSIS

	O	M	R	W
Bannerji	6	1	35	3
Jagdale	10	2	32	0
Nayudu	12	0	49	1
Chowdhary	9	1	42	1
Sarwate	9	1	42	1

Umpires Mesars. D. K. Naik and J. R. Patel.

Senate Meeting

SYNDICATE'S ACTION CONDEMNED

Exoneration Of Dr. Mehta Costs University Rs. 22,000

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Bombay University Senate at its meeting today afternoon condemned the action of the University Syndicate in exonerating Dr. T. N. Mehta from an obligation which he owed to the University under a legal contract.

The disapproval of the Senate was expressed in the form of an amendment to the motion for the adoption of the annual report of the Syndicate and the audited accounts of the University for the year 1945-46. The amendment was passed by the House three members dissenting.

Dr. G. M. Kurulkar who moved the amendment revealed that Dr. T. N. Mehta had gone to U.S.A. to study at the cost of the University. The University had spent Rs. 22,094 for him during the period of his study there. In return he had given an undertaking to serve the University for a period of at least three years after his return from the U.S.A., or to refund the amount in case of his failure to do so. After his return he served the University for about two years but left it thereafter for a Government post at Delhi. According to Dr. Kurulkar the Syndicate was wrong in allowing Dr. Mehta to go without fulfilling his obligation to the University. Their action. he said. had not only cost the University Rs. 22,000 but had at the same time created a bad precedent.

DONATIONS

The Senate unanimously accepted the offer of Rs. 30,000 from the Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Company Ltd. for the purchase of a Solvent Extraction Unit for the Oils, Fats and Soap Section of the Department of Chemical Technology, Matunga. The Senate also accepted the offer of a donation of Rs. 12,000 from Dr. C. C. Shan, president of the Sir Robert Allan Memorial Committee, for founding a gold medal to be awarded to a candidate securing the highest aggregate total of marks at the University Examinations after Matriculation leading upto the B.Sc. (Agri). The other donation of Rs. 10,000 accepted by the Senate came from Mr. C. F. Borges for the foundation of a scholarship or a prize to be named after his deceased son, and to be awarded to a student who topped the first M.B.B.S. examination. The offer of an endowment of Rs. 10,000 received from Mr. B. S. Dabke for founding a scholarship to be awarded to a candidate securing the highest number of marks in all the subjects of the second year examination in Textiles was also accepted by the Senate.

The proposal recommending the Senate to request the Government of Bombay to transfer the senior and the junior B.Sc. classes from the Royal Institute of Science to the Elphinstone College and to hand over the Institute to the University for being conducted as Post graduate Institute for training and research in pure and applied science and to give an annual recurring grant of Rs. three lakhs to the University for the purpose, was referred back to the Syndicate for further consideration.

The Senate further sanctioned an amount equivalent to 1,000 dollars towards the expenses to be incurred by Prof. C. N. Vakil in connection with his visit to certain universities in America to study the working of research organisations in Economics in U.S.A.

Prof. K. T. Shah was elected to the Syndicate in place of Dr. E. S. Erulkar who ceases to be a Fellow. Dewan Bahadur K. M. Jhaveri and Mr. G. I. Patel were re-elected on the Syndicate. Mr R. N. Vakil was elected on the Academic Council.

CONCERN OVER PRICE OF NEWSPRINT

NEW YORK, Feb. 14 (U.P.A.): The American Newsprint Publishers Association today issued the following statement:

"An increasing number of publishers are displaying concern over the rumours the prices up to and exceeding 200 dollars per ton for spot market newsprint said to be paid by some newspapers.

"In exceptional cases it may be true that certain publishers can pay these astronomic prices provided the newsprint is used for advertising only and the costs are calculated on the basis of paper and composition only regardless of all other costs inherent to newspaper publication.

"Many publishers express the opinion that a price higher tnan the present price of newsprint would have a serious effect on the ability of a large number of newspapers to continue in business."

"Therefore, publishers paying these fantastic spot market newsprint prices are believed by many to be contributing to a situation that could bring about an increase in the present contract price of newsprint. As long as some publishers are willing to pay these fantastic prices, some sales will be made.

"It is believed that a very small tonnage is involved but these bids by one publisher against another are holding up the level of exorbitant prices which includes a considerable sum to the fixer or go-between".

French Economic Troubles May Lead To Cabinet Crisis

Policemen And Govt. Servants Join Demonstrators: General Strike Feared

PARIS, Feb. 14 (Reuter): The present French economic crisis may well precipitate a cabinet crisis in the near future.

M. Ramadier told the Assembly that the danger to the currency and general economy of the country was as great as at the beginning of January when his predecessor, M. Leon Blum, launched his anti-inflation policy. Since that date "the national sense of responsibility seemed to have diminished", he added.

The general feeling in Government and political quarters after M. Ramadier's address was pessimistic.

Despite the Premier's appeal for national discipline it was feared that discontent might lead to nation-wide and paralysing strikes.

Some quarters even expressed fears of civil strife unless Government could hold the prices and lessen the unrest among organised labour.

There was an atmosphere in the Paris streets today reminiscent of the fervour which preceded the election of the "popular front" Government in 1936.

POLICEMEN DISAPPEAR

As Government employees walked out of hundreds of offices this afternoon, traffic policemen disappeared from duty and radio programmes and automatic telephones went dead.

Meanwhile newspaper workers are on strike for a 25 per cent wages increase which the Government has rejected. The strike is expected to last some time with grave consequences to the newspaper industry.

DEMONSTRATION CONTINUE

Today's demonstrators bore brilliantly-coloured placards bearing "more wages" slogans. Typists marching arm-in-arm bantered with pedestrians lining the pavements, then came Municipal workmen wearing black berets followed by clerks of the Bank of France.

There were two processions, one on the right bank of the Seine and the other on the left, with loud-speakers to issue instructions and shout slogans.

ALLIANCE WITH CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

The French Foreign Office announced tonight that France is about to enter into a new alliance with Czechoslovakia and a "cultural agreement" with Poland.

Asked if there was any intention by France to "align with Russia" at the Moscow Conference on the German peace treaty, a Foreign Office spokesman said "France has not intention of forming an Axis with Moscow, London, Washington, Addis Ababa or any other power. We are making absolutely no preparations to form any bloc as far as settlement of Germany is concerned."

An official communique revealed that the new Czechoslovak treaty was aimed at "strengthening collaboration between the two countries" and the spokesman said it would reaffirm the two previous treaties of friendship and mutual guarantee.

PARSI INDUSTRIALIST WHO BUILT 40 SHIPS

Bombay Observes Death Anniversary Of Late Mr. Framji C. Banaji

Very interesting facts giving a peep into the 19th century Bombay and the part played by the Banaji family were revealed by K. B. Hormasji K. Pastakia, presiding over the gathering, held at Krishna Theatre, Charni Road, on Wednesday, to observe the 96th death anniversary of late Sheth Framji Cowasji Banaji. Mr. Banaji, who started his career in 1807, was a great businessman and industrialist who had vast business relations with the Far Eastern countries, including Burma and China. In collaboration with his brother, Mr. Rustomji, they won fame as shipwrights; and at one time owned as many as forty ships which were used for trading between Bombay and the Far East and Europe. In one of his own ships he sent a consignment of mangoes to Queen Victoria which gift was much appreciated. He owned vast estates at Pawai, where he started several industrial concerns. Besides he took a leading part in devising a scheme to bring Pawai Lake water to Bombay. He also took great interest in introducing gas in the metropolis. He spent many lakhs of rupees in building public institutions such as schools dharamshalas, rest houses, wells, for the use of poor citizens, in and around Pawai. After his death, in grateful remembrance of all his munificence, a cosmopolitan gathering resolved to commemorate his services by raising a fund and erecting the institute known as "Framji Cowasji Institute." The Fire-temple erected by him at Karelwadi, facing Queen's Road was ideally situated. Bombay was proud of such an illustrious son. Finally Mr. Pastakia exhorted the Trustees to build a couple of buildings in the spacious compound of this fire-temple, at least one in the open space adjoining the B. J. Institution, containing five storeys with three additional roofs over it—of Mansard pattern—making it in all an eight-storeyed structure. This would accommodate many families, including those of the priests and mobeds and Parsi servants working in the fire-temple. After joint prayers wishing eternal repose to the soul of this worthy, and the screening of the film "Bharat Milap", the gathering dispersed.

TORY MOVE TO DEFRAUD INDIA OF STERLING ASSETS

British Diehards Assert Counter-Claims For Wartime Services: Motion In Commons

LONDON, Feb. 15 (U.P.A.): The British Government should make counter claims for wartime services rendered to nations with sterling balances to their credit, according to a motion which would be tabled by five Conservative Members in the House of Commons next week.

In the meantime, no official comment was available concerning current negotiations on India's sterling balances. Officials emphasised that the New Delhi talks were purely "exploratory" although it was expected that some tangible results would emerge.

Parliamentary quarters believed the Indian political scene was not propitious for sterling balance negotiations. They expressed the opinion that the question of sterling balances was likely to become immersed in politics, particularly since the injection of the Anglo-American financial agreement into the sterling debt negotiations.

Preliminary Talks End: More Discussion In April

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15, (A.P.I.): The preliminary talks in New Delhi about Indian sterling balances between officers of H. M. Treasury and the Bank of England on the one hand, and the Finance Department and Reserve Bank of India on the other, have now concluded says a press communique.

The conversations have lasted two weeks, and although they have been of an exploratory nature, the whole subject has been examined in detail. On both sides the talks are regarded as having been extremely useful. It is expected that the conversations will be continued on a more formal basis towards the end of April. The arrangements for the further conversations will be decided as soon as is convenient.

Charge T. V. Soong With Maladministration

NANKING, Feb. 14 (U.P.A.): Legislative Yuan members at a meeting today attacked Executive Yuan President T. V. Soong for alleged maladministration, causing the present economic crisis, but a motion asking Soong to resign was not put to vote.

The members decided to meet again on Saturday and request Soong to appear in person to answer questions.

Azad To Lead Goodwill Mission To Middle East?

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15 (UPI): The United Press of India learns that the External Affairs Department have decided to send out a Goodwill Mission of five or six members to the near and Middle East countries. This mission will, it is learnt, be headed by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Education Member in the Interim Government. According to the programme tentatively chalked out this mission will visit Persia, Arabia, Iraq, Turkey and establish a friendly contact with the people of these countries so as to facilitate direct and neighbourly relations between the Government of India and the Governments of those countries in future.

The proposed mission is likely to leave India shortly after the Budget session of the Central Assembly.

"Remain True To Your Charge"

Defence Member Warns Armed Forces Against Mischief Makers

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15 (API): Sardar Baldev Singh, Defence Member in the Interim Government, in a statement addressed to all ranks of India's armed forces, said to-day: "Once again I ask you to bear with me awhile. I know you will do it."

"You will remember," the Defence Member said, "A few weeks after the Interim Government took office, I spoke over the radio to our armed forces as the first Indian in charge of the Defence Department of our country.

FORCES' PROBLEMS

"I told you that your problems were hereafter my problems. All I asked you was to bear with me awhile.

"In my effort to put first things first, the Nationalisation Committee was set up—as you know. It has begun its work, and consisting as it does, of men of eminence and experience, its report will, I am sure, help the Government to lay solidly the foundations of that structure of our armed forces which will be national to the core and a matter of pride to all of us who love and honour our country.

"We have, in addition, the Pay Commission charged with the duty to meet the legitimate claims of you all for better and more worthwhile living. Its report is due any time now and I am sure you all will find it will materially improve your conditions.

BEWARE OF TROUBLE-MONGERS

"I would particularly address you, men in our naval forces. There are people, who, I know, will mislead you. They will create doubts and suspicions in your minds. May I warn you of their ulterior motives? They wish to deflect you from your loyalty to your motherland and your National Government.

"Beware of their treachery. You form the bulwark of our national security. Remain true to your charge and believe me that I shall leave nothing undone to help you and to ensure that you share the honour that is your due."

Indian Charge D'Affaires Calls On Dean Acheson

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (U.P.A.): The new Indian Charge d'Affaires, B. R. Sen, paid a courtesy call on Under-Secretary of State Dean Acheson today.

He later told newsmen that it was merely a formal call and nothing specific was discussed.

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

CALCUTTA, Feb. 15 (API): The Hon. Secretary of the All-India Table Tennis Federation announced to-day that "owing to the inadequacy of financial support" the idea of sending an Indian team to compete in the International and World Table Tennis Championship at Paris this month has been dropped.

The Secretary said that all donors who had already sent contributions to the Team Fund have been requested to allow their donations to be "frozen" with the All-India T. T. Federation for use in connection with India's next table tennis team going abroad.

He added that efforts would be made to bring out to India two table tennis champions of world-class such as Bergmann, Vana, Barna or Miles to play at least four exhibition matches with Indian teams in various cities in India.

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Wanted agents and stockists for Embossers, Stitchings and plates. Azad Company, Aligarh (1856)

Wanted influential experienced and reliable persons for canvassing. Apply to Indian National Directories, Post Box 115, Bangalore City. 4560

Wanted Agents or Stockists for our Pearl, Horn and Nut Buttons. Diamond Button Mfg. Co., Dacca (Bengal). (4880)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

HINDUSTAN MOTORS LIMITED. CALCUTTA

1. Shareholders who have not yet paid the call money at Rs. 5/- per share are informed that unless payment together with interest at Rs. 6/- p.c per annum from 15th October 1945 up to the date of payment is made forthwith, they will be liable for all dues and also costs that may be incurred in legal steps that may have to be taken to realize the amount from them; besides their shares shall be liable to forfeiture. The mere fact of having sold the shares with blank transfer does not absolve those whose names are registered with the Company from their legal liability. In their own interest they should persuade the persons holding the shares with blank transfers to pay the call immediately

2. Those holding shares with blank transfer are running the risk of having the shares forfeited without notice to them, unless they pay the above mentioned dues immediately.

3. Shareholders who have not yet exchanged their allotment letters with the relative share certificates are requested to do so now without any further delay.

4. CHANGE OF ADDRESS—Due to postal irregularities, disturbances etc. it is possible, several letters from shareholders requesting a change of address have not reached the Company. To enable us to check our records, all shareholders who have changed their original address are requested to notify their change. They are requested to send such advices on a separate paper marked "change of address" in red ink on the top. No other communication should be written on that paper.

5. Communications concerning calls, transfer, change of address, splitting of share certificates etc., should not be included in one letter paper. It would facilitate quick disposal if letters on different subjects are written on separate letter papers, though they may be enclosed in one cover. All such covers should be marked "Share Department".

SECRETARY.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Representative of J. W. Seal will shortly visit Bombay for purchase of Convertor (from direct current to Alternative current) Printing machine, Paper cutting machine, all kinds of Printing & Binding materials and office stationery articles. Interested parties please correspond to Post Box 90, Calcutta 1. (2020)

PUBLIC NOTICES.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY. TENDER NOTICE.

Special item costing over Rs. 10,000 Class I Contract.

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED for the following and will be received in the General Manager's Office, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY, 105, Clive Street, Calcutta on 14TH MARCH 1947 at 12 O'Clock noon.

Tender No. SP/F/EB1/DG-296 for the supply of 3000 Nos. Draw Hook to Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer, Lillooah's Drawing No. DG-296.

Tender forms and drawing can be obtained from the under-noted officials on payment of the following charges to the Treasurer, East Indian Railway, 105, Clive Street, Calcutta and on production of his receipt when applying for the same.

(a) Tender Form at Rs. 2/- per copy from the Controller of Stores, East Indian Railway, 105, Clive Street, Calcutta.

(b) Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, Lillooah's Drawing No. DG-296 at annas -/8/- per copy from the Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, East Indian Railway, Lillooah.

Firm outside Calcutta may however remit the cost of the tender form to the Controller of Stores, East Indian Railway, 105, Clive Street, Calcutta and that of the drawings to Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer, East Indian Railway, Lillooah direct by money order. No refund is permissible after payment.

Sealed tenders delivered by hand should be presented for registration in the General Manager's Office, East Indian Railway, 105, Clive Street, Calcutta and then put into the Tender Box outside the Deputy General Manager's (Works) room by the Tenderer or his representative.

GENERAL MANAGER. (2017)

KASHI VIDYAPITH COMMEMORATION VOLUME IS OUT

CONTRIBUTORS:

Acharya Narendra Deva, Shri Sampurnanand, Shri Sri Prakasa, Prof. Birbal Sahani, Dr. Basudeo Sharan Agrawal, Dr. Mangal Deva Shastri, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramaiyya,

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THE MAGAZINE FOR THE CULTURED

CITY MARKETS

GOLD & SILVER

BOMBAY, Feb. 15.

The Bullion market was quietly steady today with moderate business passing. Bulls have fully exploited the situation and now they knew the dangers of over exerting their influence. This change in the attitude is inducing moderate liquidation on strong markets

Fagan delivery silver opened today at Rs. 147/12 and declined at Rs. 142/7 but improved at Rs. 147/14 and steadied at Rs. 147/12. Ready Silver was quoted at Rs. 156/12. Fagan Gold after touching Rs. 103/14 improved at Rs. 104/5 and steadied at Rs. 104/3. Ready Gold was placed at Rs 107/4

Later on there was further liquidation in Silver and Fagan delivery was quoted at Rs. 146/13. Quotations were as under:—

	Rs.	as.	p.
Ready Gold	107	4	0
Fagan Delivery	104	1	0
Ready Silver	156	0	0
Fagan Delivery	146	14	0

BUSINESS HOLIDAY

All city markets will remain entirely closed on 19th inst. being "Maha Shivratri".

BOMBAY COTTON

BOMBAY, Feb. 15.

The local cotton market was fairly steady with scattered short covering and long liquidation. It is reported that some traders have transferred their purchases of March into later months on the belief that there is not much risk at present prices.

March delivery opened today at Rs. 436/8 and improved at Rs. 437/- under short covering.

At this level there was renewed long liquidation and March option declined at Rs. 435/12 and steadied at Rs 436 May delivery was quoted at Rs 446/12.

The market finally closed at 2 p.m. as under:—

ICC March	436	10	0
ICC May	447	8	0
ICC July	458	4	0
ICC Sept.	466	2	0

INDIAN COTTON PARITY.

Indian Cotton March Contract is 1639 cent points below New York March at Exchange rate 331

HIGH & LOW COTTON PRICES.

BOMBAY Feb 14.

	Hi.	Lo.	Closing.
March	436-1/4	434-1/2	436-1/4
May	447-1/4	445-1/2	447-1/4
July	457-3/4	456-1/2	457-3/4
Sept.	465-1/4	464-1/2	465-1/4
Karachi 4F March	46-13-9	46-9-9	46-12-9

PRODUCE MARKET

BOMBAY, Feb. 15.

Today no business was reported in groundnuts and traders are puzzled awaiting government's move to break the deadlock Linseed was fairly steady after yesterday's decline influenced by large Argentine Sales. Castorseeds May delivery after fluctuating between Rs. 119/12 and Rs. 120/12 steadied at Rs. 120. Quotations were as under:—

GROUNDNUTS:—			
Khandesh Ready	Unquoted		
Coromandal	Unquoted		
Bold	Unquoted		
LINSEEDS:—			
Ready	28	4	0
February March	26	3	0
April May	26	4	0
CASTORSEEDS:—			
Navlakhi Ready	26	12	0
February March Navlakhi	25	8	0
Goa Ready	26	12	0
Bombay Ready	26	10	0
May Delivery	120	0	0
GROUNDNUTS OIL:—			
Bombay Mills	12	14	0
Linseed Oil	21	0	0
Castorseed Oil	17	12	0

New York Cotton Firm After Opening Decline

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.

Cotton opened weak reflecting a heavy liquidation movement prompted by the reduction in the export subsidy rate. The market remained nervous owing to the recognition that the reduced export subsidy places other world exporters in better competitive position. The cotton trade was still placing dependence on raw cotton exports despite continued reference to dwindling supplies in the U. S. Prices advanced later with aggressive mill buying reflecting the realisation that the reduced export subsidy rate is more likely directly to affect distant positions rather than near months; furthermore old crops are already in a strong statistical position. The market closed firm.

NEW YORK COTTON.

New York, Feb. 14.

March	33.25+18
March highest	33.30+23
March lowest	32.27—80
May	32.25+17
July	30.53+28
October	27.65—05
December	26.79—11
January	26.54—14
March	26.40—10
Middling Spot	33.85+03

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.

March	33.27+36
May	32.20+23
July	30.43+27
October	27.73+12
December	26.88+13
Middling Spot	32.95+20

ON WITH THE SHOW!

A Peep Behind The Scenes— At Home And Abroad

By "SARDI"

ISHERWOOD: MAUGHAM'S MODEL

The credit titles of M.G.M.'s six-year old Bergman film "Rage In Heaven", currently showing at the Metro, reveal an interesting name—that of CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD who collaborated on the screen-play with Robert Thoeren.

About two years ago, from Los Angeles came the news report that Isherwood, well-known English poet, wearying of the din and noise of the war-torn world, was seeking peace in a Hindu temple in Hollywood. In addition to the study of Yoga, Isherwood had also undertaken the translation of the Bhagavad Gita in collaboration with a Sanskrit scholar. Aldous Huxley was also somewhere in the picture, if my memory serves me right, though in what capacity, I fail to recall.

Not much later, was published SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S last but one novel—THE RAZOR'S EDGE. An intriguing side-light on the book is that the chief character, Larry Darrell, is patterned after Isherwood.

NOVEL FILMED

In the forthcoming 20th Century Fox adaptation of "The Razor's Edge", Isherwood's prototype is played by TYRONE POWER. With a soulfulness belied by his looks, Tyrone Power portrays the idealist Larry, who, after a narrow escape from death in World War I, searches restlessly for knowledge and mental peace, eventually dedicating himself to a life of renunciation in a corner of India.

In the same film, GENE TIERNEY enacts the role of a flighty female who turns away from the unworldly Larry to a wealthy suitor played by JOHN PAYNE. In the picture's subsidiary theme, ANNE BAXTER, seen last week in "Angel On My Shoulder", is said to give so fine a performance as a fallen woman, that it is said she may run away with the year's Academy Award for the best feature role. The cynical Clifton Webb of "Laura" and "The Dark Corner", here portrays a society snob with a peculiar predilection, in Maugham's book, for his own sex—a side of the character probably toned down or eliminated from the screen. The book is written in the first person, and to HERBERT MARSHALL goes the honour for bringing to the screen one of the greatest contemporary playwrights who, at the age of seventy-three has decided to retire from writing after giving the public almost two dozen plays, including RAIN, THE SACRED FLAME, OUR BETTERS and SCHIFF-BRUCHIG his very first venture into drama, produced in German, in Berlin, in 1901. Of his twenty-two novels perhaps the best known to picture-goers, are: OF HUMAN BONDAGE (Eleanor Parker—Paul Henreid), THE PAINTED VEIL, (Garbo-Herbert Marshall-George Brent) and THE MOON AND SIXPENCE (George Sanders).

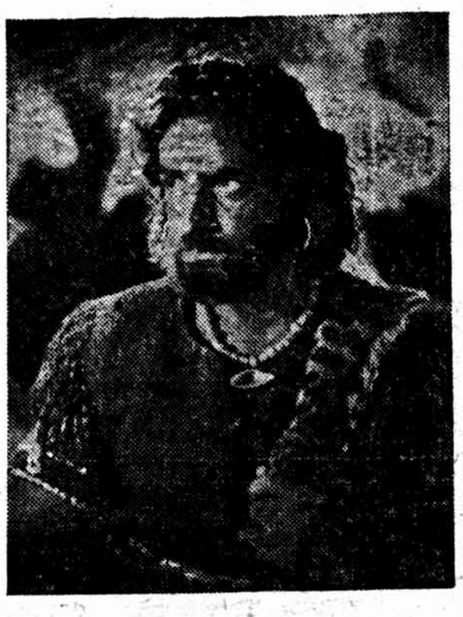
SYMBOL EXPLAINED

By the way, have you noticed the peculiar symbol that is invariably imprinted on the cover and the title page of every book by Maugham, who, incidentally, was a doctor (M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.) at St. Thomas's Hospital when his first novel LIZA OF LAMBETH appeared way back in 1897? Here is the explanation of the intriguing symbol in the author's own words:

"The symbol originated in the Atlas Mountains. It is a sign against the Evil Eye and I have always understood it to be a stylisation of the human hand. I use it on my books, letter-paper, and even on my front door....."

BANAL PUBLICITY METHODS

I have been repeatedly clamouring for better publicity organisation for our Indian films and more co-operation with the Press. It is a sad commentary on the present state of affairs that while one could present to one's readers reams of interesting behind-the-lights stories of Western



Prithviraj in "Valmiki" at the Swastik

stars and films (owing to the intelligent publicity methods of foreign film companies which always keep in touch with Film Editors not only in their own country but all over the world), it is almost impossible to give a behind-the-scenes glimpse into Indian film studios.

Lacking imagination, our screen publicists are content to send to the Press ill couched notices of films in the making. These are mere news-bulletins which merely try to spotlight the stars, producers, directors, etc. without telling any lively stories about them or their rise to fame. Just a string of names—very much like a cake with no icing to make it presentable! Nobody is really interested to know that Producer So-and-So has performed the 'muhurut' of such-and-such a picture—with not a glimmer of the theme nor a single interesting side-light.

Let our screen publicists study foreign publicity methods. They have a 'helluva lot', as the Yankees say, to learn from these alien concerns whom they very often sheepishly follow in the wrong things!

However, the industry is not entirely lacking in imaginative publicists. Be it known in favour of the PANCHOLI STUDIOS, Lahore, that theirs is the liveliest and, in my opinion, the most efficient publicity department going in filmdom. Almost weekly, I receive from them a snort, and sweet report of some amusing or interesting episode connected with a film still or the sets.

Film moghuls must learn that there is sales value in lively, imaginative publicity.

MAGDA MAGIC

I have an official invitation from MAGDA NACHMAN, the the clever Russian artist, to an exhibition of her paitings and drawings which will open at the Chetana Cultural Centre on Thursday, February, 20, at 6 P.M. and continue to run till March 2.

Having personally seen Magda at work in her entirely Bohemian studio on Walkeshwar Road and knowing her work, I heartily recommend the exhibition to art lovers.

Magda is good at portrait, painting and fair imaginary subject painting; but her forte, in my opinion, lies in her excellent life-like studies of village and street boys and in her still-life drawings.

Several of Magda's paintings of village youth hang on the walls of the dancer Ram Gopal's Bangalore home, he being one of her great admirers. I have also known Captain Michael Scott, a former A.D.C. to the present Governor of Bombay, purchase several of Magda's paintings which he has taken with him to his home in the United Kingdom.

Go to the exhibition and enjoy Magda's magic.

NEW CONSTITUTION FOR CAMBODIA

PNOM-PENN, CAMBODIA, Feb. 15, (Reuter): Some 3,000,000 inhabitants of Cambodia a quant little Kingdom sandwiched between Siam and war-torn Indo-China, are shortly to have their own democratic constitution modelled on the British Parliamentary system, cables Reuter's special correspondent.

The presentation of the new draft constitution to the 26-year-old King, Norodom Sihanouk, by 69 members of the National Assembly tomorrow, marks his formal transition from absolute to constitutional monarch.

Britain Buys More Russian Cotton

MANCHESTER, Feb. 13, (Reuter): It is officially disclosed here that following the recent negotiations in Moscow, Britain has bought a further quantity of Russian cotton.

GOVT. OUT TO ENCOURAGE CO-OPERATIVE FARMING

(Continued from Page 10.)

India had started a Swadeshi exhibition in 1868 and how through various stages the museum developed out of this exhibition. The institution had earned encomiums from many quarters.

The Local Self-Government Committee presided over by the late Prof. V. G. Kale had reported in 1938 that museums should be established in every division of the Province. The present Bill was the first step in the implementation of those recommendations. It sought to make provision for the stability, satus, governance and dignity of the institution.

The Premier had not concluded when the House rose for the day.

The Speaker has fixed Monday and Tuesday as Non-official days.

Mr. M. A. Khurro, Revenue Minister, Government of Sind, watched the proceedings of the House for some time from the Speaker's gallery.

ASSEMBLY BUDGET PROGRAMME

The following is the Budget programme of the Bombay Legislative Assembly:

Feb. 24, 1947:—Presentation of Budget.

March 4, 5 and 6:—General Discussion on Budget (three days).

March 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,17, 18, 19 20 and 24:—Voting of demands for grants (twelve days).

March 17:—Laying of supplementary statement of expenditure.

March 22:—Motions for further demands for grants.

March 25 and 26:—Voting on the demands for supplementary grants and discussion of estimates of expenditure.

TEN PER CENT. INCREASE IN BOMBAY RENT

An increase of ten per cent on the level of house rents in Bombay City and some parts of the province will be permitted by the Bombay Government. A Bill which has been published in the "Government Gazette" will be introduced in the current session of the Bombay Legislative Assembly. The object of the Bill is to encourage landlords "to keep their premises under proper repair."

The Bill retains in main the provisions of the existing two Acts—the Bombay Rent Restriction Act and the Bombay Rents, Hotel Rates and Lodging House Rates Act, as the conditions requiring control over rentals continue in an even more aggravated form.

It is proposed that provision for control over hotel rates and lodging house rates should not be included in the present legislation but that they should continue to be governed by Part IV of the Bombay Rents, Hotel Rates and Lodging House Rates (Control) Act, 1944, which remains in force for the purpose till April 1948.

Opportunity has been taken in preparing the Bill to make provision for certain additional matters which experience of the working of the Acts has shown to be necessary.

In the case of newly constructed or reconstructed premises left for the first time it is provided that the standard rent should be regulated by rules to be made under the Act.

OBJECT

Provision is made for landlords of premises let at rentals which did not take the present highly increased cost of maintenance and repairs into account to make an increase in rent not exceeding 10 per cent., with the object of encouraging landlords to keep the premises in proper repair;

Provision is made for controlling sub-letting by tenants and preventing tenants from exploiting the protection given to them to the detriment of the interests of the landlord.

Precise provisions have been laid down governing the grant of certificates entitling landlords to recover possession of premises or to evict tenants.

Provision is made to control excessive charges for furniture passing with a tenancy or given on hire with a tenancy;

The penal provisions have been made more precise.

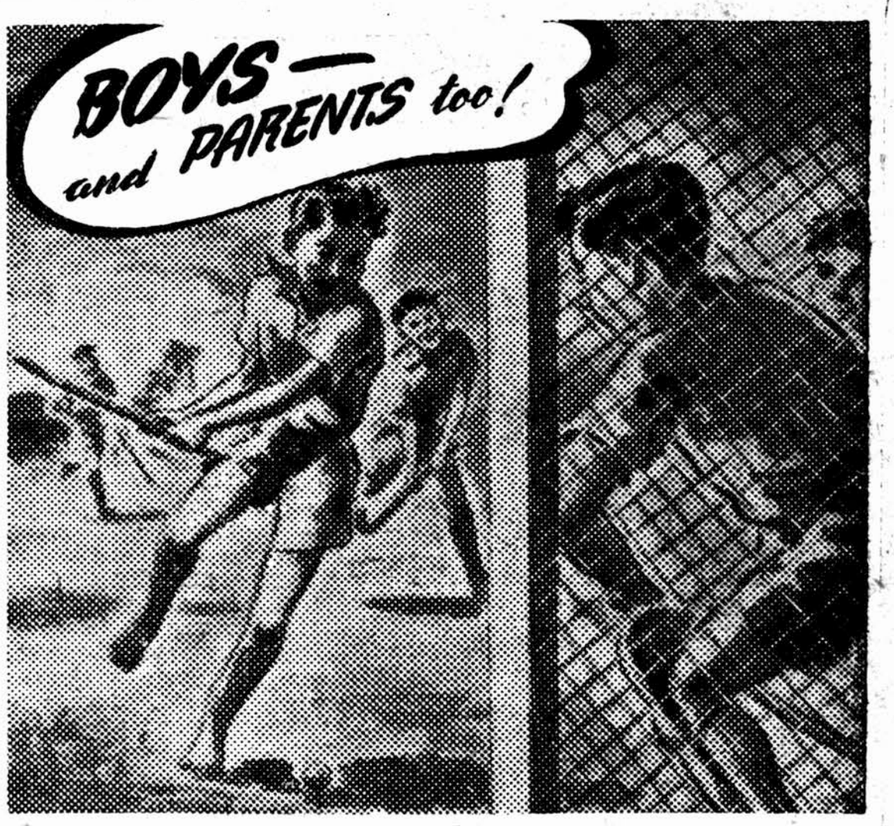
CHRISTIANS' WARNING TO CONGRESS AND LEAGUE

No Constitution Without Representation

LAHORE, Feb. 15 (API): The Executive Council of the All-India Christian League, at a meeting held to discuss the position of the Indian Christians 'vis-a-vis' the Constituent Assembly and the Advisory Committee, in a resolution declared: "We want to make it clear that in case the constitution of the Centre or that of a Group or a Province is framed either by the Congress or the Muslim League or by them separately or jointly without our adequate popular representation, we shall not be bound to accept it."

Ambala Plague Claims Toll Of 250

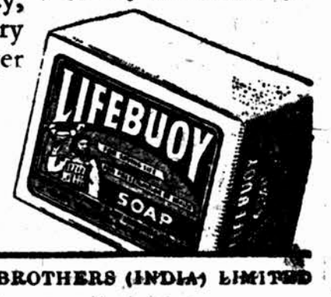
AMBALA, Feb. 15, (A.P.I.): Plague which is raging in a virulent form in Ambala District has so far claimed a toll of 250 lives, according to reports received here from different villages. The local authorities are taking all precautionary measures to check the spread of the disease.



TO BOYS: A rush towards the opponents' goal, our centre dribbling. a sharp click, and he's passed to you; you steady the ball, and with a powerful shot send it—bang—straight into the GOAL. It's hot work and you are grimy all over from several falls, but it has been a grand game. and now for a Lifebuoy bath. That Lifebuoy bath is very important because Lifebuoy gets rid of germs as well as dirt. Think what a comfort that thought is to your mother. So don't forget your Lifebuoy wash after every game..and before every meal.

Write to Dept C135 P.O. Box 758, Bombay, just what you think about Lifebuoy. Every month a prize will be given for the best answer to the question, "Why I use Lifebuoy?"

TO PARENTS: Wherever they play—at home, at school, in the street—your children are in constant danger from dirt which, as you know, holds dangerous germs. Doctors tell us that ordinary dust and dirt are the cause of no less than 27 different illnesses. The quickest and safest way to deal with germs in dirt is to wash thoroughly and regularly with Lifebuoy.



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BEVIN TO DISCUSS PALESTINE WITH STALIN & MARSHAL

International Authority For Holy Land Till U. N. O. Gives Decision

LONDON Feb. 15 (UPA): British sources to-day predicted the setting up of an international authority for Palestine possibly on the lines of that for Trieste.

Such an authority would endeavour to give effect to whatever political decision would be reached by the United Nations following the appeal to them by the British Government.

There were definite indications that Britain would prefer to take the Palestine issue before the General Assembly of the United Nations rather than appeal to the Security Council.

BEVIN CONSULTING MARSHALL

Foreign Minister Bevin was believed to be seeking an opportunity to discuss the matter with General George Marshall and Josef Stalin during the meeting of the Foreign Ministers in Moscow on March 10 before taking a final stand.

The Cabinet has so far made no decision on the procedure for the appeal to the United Nations, sources close to the Foreign Office said today.

The sources indicated that Britain might, however, ask the Secretary General to call a special meeting of the United Nations Assembly if conditions should further deteriorate and a speedier solution be considered imperative.

LAW AND ORDER TO BE MAINTAINED

The Cabinet was to-day reported to have issued instructions to the Palestinian authorities to keep up all necessary measures for the maintenance of order.

British sources said the withdrawal of British troops from Palestine was unlikely before a decision had been reached by the United Nations.

MURDER OF FORMER ARAB MAYOR OF JAFFA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15 (Reuter):—Sheikh Ali Shahin, former Mayor of Jaffa, was murdered at the door of his home in Jaffa last night by an unknown Arab. it was announced today.

It is believed that the murder had a political motive. Sheikh Ali Shahin visited Cairo last year claiming to represent Palestine Muslim Ulemas but was disowned on his return by the Supreme Muslim Council.

With a number of Arab leaders he took refuge in Egypt during the Palestine Arab disorders in 1938. He was opposed to the leadership of the Mufti of Jerusalem.

JEWISH YOUTH KIDNAPPED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15 (APA): Two masked men carrying machine guns abducted a Jewish youth at the town of Peteh Tigvah last night, when they raided a cafe, it was officially announced to-day.

The area was the scene recently of strifes between terrorist and anti-terrorist youth organizations.

BRITAIN WILL NOT QUIT

Pending U. N. O. Arrangements In Palestine

LONDON, Feb. 15, (APA): Britain yesterday admitted failure to solve the thorny problem of Palestine and announced that she would hand the whole matter over to the United Nations.

Immediate reaction of a Palestine Arab leader to the British decision was that his countrymen would not necessarily accept international arbitration.

Doctor Jamal Husseini who led the Palestine Arab delegation to the London talks, implied that an unfavourable United Nations decision would only bring an Arab holy war to the Holy Land.

He told the Associated Press of America: "We will only be bound by our rights and continue fighting until we get them."

The Jewish Agency Political Chief, Moshe Shertok, said that until the issue was sent before the U.N., Jews would continue to press for an interim....relaxation of the "seriously discriminatory land laws and the punitive restrictions on immigration".

Government informants emphasised that Britain was unlikely to withdraw her 100.000 troops from the Holy Land until the United Nations had made new arrangements for its future administration.

CURFEW EXTENDED IN KURLA

The order issued on Jan. 30, imposing curfew in certain areas in Kurla which was extended from time to time has been again extended for a further period of seven days from Feb. 17, hours of curfew will now be from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. in all the areas and places to which the old order applied.

FUEL CRISIS EASING SLOWLY

MINERS FOREGO HOLIDAY AND WORK OVERTIME

Unprecedented Gesture By Railwaymen And Dockers

LONDON, Feb. 15 (U.P.A.): Miners, railwaymen and dockers throughout Britain volunteered by the thousands today to work full Sunday shifts to build up coal reserves at power plants and gas works in the midst of the twentieth century's worst winter.

CRISIS EASING SLOWLY

The crisis was easing slowly with trains and colliers by the score bringing thousands of tons of coal to London and other fuel short centres. There were stocks for approximately a week at the country's power plants and gas work supplies—causing anxiety to Prime Minister Attlee's Emergency Council—were enough for nine days.

At mine heads in many parts of Britain miners met in the freezing dawn to vote on working through tomorrow piling coal on the ground if rail cars were not on hand. Three railway unions put out the call: Put in all necessary overtime on Saturday and Sunday to clear the coal trains and accept all changes in normal working practice."

It was an unprecedented gesture.

From Wales' famed Rhondda Valley alone the men's decision meant an extra 50.000 tons of coal tomorrow.

B.B.C. OF THE AIR

The British Broadcasting Corporation was off the air for five hours a day and was restricted to one instead of two wavelengths for home consumption during daylight hours. The foreign service was relatively untouched.

The dropping of food to the villagers cost the lives of eight men when an R.A.F. Halifax crashed this week.

NO 'PUNCH' NEXT WEEK

That gentlemanly London humourous magazine, "Punch", next week may fail to provide its weekly measures of droll jabs of British manners morals and politics for the first time since Queen Victoria was a blushing bride.

An uninterrupted publication record of more than a hundred years for several other publications as well as "Punch", will be broken for the first time.

The political weekly, "Spectator" will lose the longest record of all. It will miss an issue for the first time in 118 years.

EUROPE SHIVERS

Europe's bitter cold wave took a mounting toll of deaths today and forecasters reported no signs of an early break in the weather.

Additional deaths directly due to exposure were reported in the German capital where more than 150 have died of cold and hunger since Dec. 1.

In Copenhagen a mob of 70 persons raided a coal train in the heart of the city shortly before the American collier, "William Thompson", docked with a cargo of badly needed fuel.

Holland ordered all public schools to be closed and during the emergency public offices will be closed on Saturdays.

Plot To Break Labour Govt.

Socialist Leader Alleges Sabotage By Big Industry

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 15: Mr. Bob Edwards, I.L.P., National Chairman, alleges that the Fuel Crisis was largely brought about by a plot by big industrialists in order to sabotage and bring down the Labour Government. He says that the wagons were deliberately kept waiting in one case, where 300 loaded wagons were kept in siding for five weeks. The Socialist leader demands enquiry and asks Government to act ruthlessly, and suggests that all transport undertakings should be taken over by the Government.

PRAKASAM REFUSED HELP

High Command "Will Not Interfere", Says Patel

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15 (APA): Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Member of the Congress Parliamentary Board, declared to-day that the Congress High Command "will not interfere" in the Madras Cabinet crisis and thereby left Premier Prakasam to the mercies of the Congress majority that is reported to have turned against him.

The statement was made in an interview in response to a question as to whether the Congress High Command would support Prakasam in his battle to retain control of the Madras Government.

Prakasam flew from Madras to New Delhi to-day to lay his case before the Congress High Command, which has steadfastly refused to endorse his Ministry.

Followers of Madras politics in Delhi were unable to say who would succeed Prakasam if his mission to Delhi failed. Rajagopalachari was declared by high officials as certain to retain his place in the Viceroy's Cabinet. Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, earlier mentioned as a possible candidate for the Premiership, has lately been fully occupied with the Indian States Peoples Conference.

MADRAS CONGRESS LEADERS IN DELHI

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15, (A.P.I.): Mr. T. Prakasam, Premier of Madras, Mr. Raghava Menon, Food Minister, Mr. Kala Venkat Rao of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and Dr. T. S. S. Rajan arrived in Delhi this evening from Madras, to interview the Congress High Command in connection with the ministerial crisis in Madras.

Mr. Prakasam and Mr. Raghava Menon will attend the Food Conference which starts here on Monday.

SALES TAX LEVIED ON NEWSPAPERS

A. I. N. E. C. Condemns Actions Of Bengal And Madras Govts.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15 (API): The Standing Committee of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference met to-day at 11 a.m. Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh, President, was in the chair and the following members were present:—

Mr. K. Srinivasan, (National Standard, Bombay); Mr. S. Sadanand, (Free Press Journal, Bombay); Mr. Kasturi Srinivasan, (Hindu, Madras); Sir Ushanath Sen, (Reuters, New Delhi); Mr. Amritlal D. Sheth (Janmabhoomi, Bombay); Mr. B. Sengupta, (U.P.I.); Mr. H. R. Moharay, (Samyukta Karnatak, Hubli); Mr. D. V. Gokhale, (Maratha, Poona); Mr. W. C. Wordsworth, (Statesman, Calcutta); Mr. B. G. Kirchner, Statesman, New Delhi); Mr. J. N. Sahni, (National Call, Delhi); Mr. Bishambarnath Pande, (Vishwavani, Allahabad); Mr. A. D. Mani, (Hitavada, Nagpur); Mr. C. R. Srinivasan, (Swadesamitran, Madras); Mr. Suresh Majumdar, (Hindustan Standard, Calcutta); Mr. F. W. Bustin, (C. and M. Gazette, Lahore); Mr. B. Shiva Rao, (Hindu, New Delhi); Mr. P. K. Sen, (Patrika, Allahabad); Mr. Devadas Gandhi, (Hindustan Times, New Delhi).

The following attended by invitation:

Mr. P. D. Sharma, Mr. P. L. Sondhi, (Tribune, Lahore) and Mr. Ramgopal.

The Committee heard reports from conveners from the Provinces and discussed the action taken against newspapers by various Provincial Governments and the Central Government.

The Committee also passed the following resolution: "The Standing Committee of the A.I.N.E.C. has heard with regret that Sales Tax is levied in the Province of Madras on all newspapers and periodicals, and in the province of Bengal, where the exemption provided for newspapers does not extend to all periodicals (weeklies, monthlies and special numbers). Levy of sales tax on newspapers and periodicals is, in principle, unsound, as it amounts to a tax on the dissemination of knowledge and, in practice, inequitable as it operates as a producers' tax, and not as a consumers' tax. The Standing Committee, therefore, urges on these Governments to exempt newspapers and periodicals from the levy of sales tax."

The Committee further discussed the situation arising from the recent legislative and executive action in the Provinces and at the Centre relating to the press and the publication of communal reports

After Reaching S. A.

King To Return To Britain Soon?

CAPETOWN, Feb. 15 (APA): Field-Marshal Jan Christian Smuts told the Associated Press of America to-day that he had heard nothing about the proposed return of King George to Britain soon after his arrival in South Africa to deal with the domestic crisis.

He considered it unlikely, he added.

High Government officials said they believed only an extreme situation would impel the King's return.

The statements referred to speculation which appeared in print for the first time, to-day, in the nationalist Afrikander paper "Die Burger."

BEES HELP POLICE IN AMRITSAR

80 Arrests Made In Lahore

LAHORE, Feb. 15 (API): "The situation in Amritsar took a turn for the worse yesterday, says a press communique issued by the Punjab Government to-day."

The communique adds: "There was a complete hartal in the town. In the evening there was a meeting in the Anjuman Park attended by about 6,000 persons. On the conclusion of the meeting a large procession was formed which, notwithstanding the efforts of the police, proceeded in the direction of Kutchery. By the time they reached the Kutchery, they were definitely unruly and panes of glass etc., were broken. The Superintendent of Police was slightly injured and a few injuries were received by members of the crowd. Two shots were fired at swarms of bees with whose active help the crowd was dispersed from the compound.

LAHORE ARRESTS

In Lahore after yesterday's evening meeting outside Mochi Gate a procession of about 15,000 persons formed up and marched down the Anarkali and along the Mall where it was stopped by the police. About 80 temporary arrests were made. The procession dispersed as usual after the arrests were made. This morning there was no particular activity and this afternoon the usual meeting is taking place outside Mochi Gate. It is not likely there will be a procession as the majority of the people will wish to attend the funeral of Mr. Mohd. Amin, M.L.A., who unfortunately died from heart attack early this morning.

India's Trade Delegation For Middle East

KARACHI, Feb. 15, (A.P.I.): The Government of India have decided to send a trade delegation to the Middle East to improve India's trade and commerce with these territories, and have appointed Mr. Haridas Laljee, a prominent merchant here as a member of the delegation. Mr. Laljee is leaving for Delhi on February 19 for preliminary discussions.

Bombay Ban On Assembly And Processions Extended

BOMBAY, Feb 15, (A.P.I.): The Commissioner of Police, Bombay, has extended for a further period of one month from February 16 his order prohibiting asembly and processions in Greater Bombay, states a press note issued by the Director of Publicity, Government of Bombay.

Sheffield Shield Match

SYDNEY, Feb. 15, (Reuter): New South Wales collapsed on a rain-damaged wicket and was dismissed for 148 by South Australia in the Sheffield Shield match today.

South Australia replied with 47 for three. The 19-year old left-hander Ron Kissell making his shield debut, was New South Wales highest scorer with 27 O'Neill took five for 28. Noble four for 25.

TIENTSIN, Feb. 15, (Reuter): The body of a United States marine, who shot and killed in Peiping on Thursday night, was brought here today for inquest.

American marines who were with the dead man stated that they were returning to their barracks in Peiping when they heard a noise like firecracker exploding after which the victim shouted that he had been hit in the back. He died immediately after entering Peiping hospital.

German People's Life Depends On U.S. Relief

NEW YORK, Feb. 14. (U.P.A.): Life or death for hundreds of thousands of people in war-torn Germany depends on American relief activity, Conrad Cardinal von Preysing told a press conference at the headquarters of the National Catholic Welfare Conference's war relief office to-day. The conference was directed by New York's Francis Cardinal Spellman, who barred political questions about the present and future of Germany and often took over answering reporters.

Von Preysing, who is about to start month-long tour of several major American cities as the guest of the Catholic Hierarchy, termed present-day Germany as "desperate," adding that "every food or clothing package from America saves a life."

He pointed out that thousands of people are unable even to leave their homes because they lack shoes and warm clothes. He said American relief is not required to give the people any comfort but just to keep them alive.

Cardinal von Preysing, who is on his first visit to the United States, said New York appeared like a "fairy tale town." He said it was difficult to believe New York was totally free from war ruin.

The only political questions he answered were connected with Nazism, which von Preysing opined is "thoroughly dead." He asserted that reports about the rebirth of Nazism were exaggerated.

Asked about the reasons for his famous Christmas message in 1942 von Preysing pointed out that Hitler openly advocated the extermination of the Jews and he as Cardinal thought the answe to that must come from the German people.

Discussion On Soviet Memorandum On Germany

Foreign Ministers' Deputies Reach Agreement On Four Articles

LONDON, Feb. 15 (Reuter): The Foreign Ministers' special deputies for Germany have completed discussions of the first part of the new Soviet memorandum on the procedure for the preparation of the German Peace Treaty which set out a general plan for all stages of the work up to the treaty's signature but not dealing with the key question of consultation of smaller allies.

Agreement in substance was reached on four out of five articles. It was, however, impossible to reach agreement on the article containing three disputed points:

Whether Albania shall be included among the states who will take part in the general peace conference

Whether the formation of a central German Governmen is necessary before the genera peace conference is called.

Whether the Big Four Foreign Ministers should produce a complete draft of the treaty before calling the general conference.

These points, it was decided, must be left over for the Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow.

FRANCE AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA DEMAND FOR PROTECTION

PRAGUE Feb. 14 (Reuter): The treaty which France and Czechoslovakia to-day announced they would negotiate will it is thought, be framed on the basis of the feeling in France and Czechoslovakia that protection is needed against possible hostility from resurrected Germany.

At a press conference held here to-day by Jan Masaryk, the Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister, Dr. Vladimir Clementis, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and M. Maurice Dejean, the French Ambassador in Prague, it was stressed that negotiations between the two countries could in no way infringe any treaties already concluded.

No date can yet be given for the signature of the treaty, which will probably involve lengthy discussions.

RANGOON STRIKE ACCENTUATES FOOD CRISIS

LONDON, Feb. 13, (I. P. A.): While the World is suffering because of food shortage rice stocks are piling up in Burma as the result of twenty days old Rangoon Dock workers strike.

Twenty thousand tons of rice are awaiting shipment, while additional fifty thousand tons are tied up in rural districts due to lack of transport.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

A new DISPOSALS Feature

WEEKLY SELECTION

For Immediate Sale to the Highest Bidder by Public Opening of Tenders

1. 5,50,000 yds. of gunny cloth (for packing), 28 in. wide, located at Ordnance Clothing Factory, Mount Road, Madras. *Reserve price per unit of 100 yds. Rs. 20/-.* Bids for minimum of 50,000 yds.

2. 4,500 yds. of silk waste cloth No. 1 (Karendy), 53 in. wide, located at Cordite Factory, Aravankadu, Nilgiris. *Reserve price per yd. Rs. 4/8/-.* Bids for whole quantity only.

3. 10,000 yds. of hessian cloth 36 in. wide, located at Ordnance Depot, Mokammeh. *Reserve price per unit of 100 yds. Rs. 15/-.* Bids for whole quantity only.

4. 86,000 yds. of greatcoat cloth, 30/32 oz., 56/58in. wide, dark blue, dark green and dark brown, located at Sri Dinesh Mills, Padra Road, Baroda, *Reserve price per yd. Rs. 5/-.* Bids for minimum of 10,000 yds.

5. 2,000 cases of Canadian toilet paper (100 rolls in each case), located at Remount Depot, Kidderpore Docks, Calcutta. *Reserve price per one case of 100 rolls, Rs. 25/-.* Bids for 1,000 or 2,000 cases only.

6. 4,000 unused tyres with tubes, size 900x16, located at Ordnance Depot, Kadivili, Bombay. *Reserve price per one tyre with one tube Rs. 150/-.* Bids for whole quantity only.

7. 500 barrels of naphthalene flakes (200 lb. in each barrel), located at Lothian Mill, Budge Budge, Calcutta. *Reserve price per one barrel Rs. 30/-.* Bids for minimum of 100 barrels.

8. 350 Hand Crab Winches, 5 ton capacity, double purchase, located at Engineer Stores Depot, Panagarh. *Reserve price per one winch Rs. 200/-.* Bids for minimum of 10 winches.

9. One used 'Allen' Vertical Diesel Engine, 6 cylinder, 266 H. P., 600 R.P.M., complete with air bottle, air compressor, fuel tank and accessories, but without fly-wheel, located at Engineer Stores Depot, Mayo Road, Lahore. *Reserve price Rs. 27,000/-.*

Quantities of items 1 to 8 inclu sive are approximate.

AC 235

The highest bid above the reserve unit price received by Deputy Director General (Co-ordination), Directorate General of Disposals, New Delhi, by March 2nd, 1947 will be accepted. The successful tenderer will be informed and the deposits of unsuccessful tenderers returned by March 10th, 1947. Public opening of tenders at 11 A. M. on March 3rd, 1947. Stores must be removed by March 25th, 1947. They will be sold "as is, where is".

Sealed tenders in double covers superscribed "WS11", may be sent on plain paper; special forms are not required. No tender will be considered unless accompanied by receipt for 10 per cent of the bid deposited in favour of Director General of Disposals in Reserve Imperial Bank or a Government Treasury. Permits to view from Regional Disposals Offices at Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore, Cawnpore and Madras.

This advertisement will not reappear. Look out for next Sunday's Selection.

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Sports Jottings From Here And There

By J. C. MAITRA

TENNIS TO THE FORE. DECLINE IN STANDARD OF PLAY. YOUNGER GENERATION DIVERTED. NEED OF COACHING DIVISION OF HONOURS. QUESTION OF PROFESSIONALISM. THE DISTINCTION MUST GO. TRAINING ABROAD.

It is a matter of deep gratification to every lover of tennis that this lovely and fascinating game is coming to the fore again after the lapse of six or seven years. With the larger supply of tennis balls and at a cheaper rate, it is now possible for many clubs to hold their open and club tournaments and for many players to take part in them. It is also pleasing to see them well-patronised by the public. It must be remembered that without ample support from the patrons of the game, little progress can be made in any direction.

DECLINE IN STANDARD OF PLAY

Critics are disappointed at the low standard of the game exhibited in the All-India Hard Court Championships held at the Bombay Gymkhana recently. It is but natural that it should be so. How could we expect a high standard when the game was almost at a standstill in this country? Still it was surprising to see our players getting the better of a renowned star like Drobney at Calcutta. It showed that the European standard is not very high either. It is bound to be so in view of what Europe has passed through during the last few years. Now it depends how quickly each country can regain and improve its lost strength and vitality, so that it can forge ahead as early as possible.

YOUNGER GENERATION DIVERTED

India has to begin not where she was left at the outbreak of the war—because then the quality of play and the number of players were much higher than it is to-day,—but almost at the beginning. It must be noted that in recent years the younger generation, both of men and women, has turned their attention to badminton and table tennis. To a certain extent this was natural. But I doubt very much if they would have claimed half their allegiance if lawn tennis was in the field. With the gates of tennis tournaments thrown wide open, more devotees are bound to enter their fold by and by—such is the drawing power of this beautiful game. It is however necessary that it should be made less costly, that is, the raquets etc. should be available at a reasonable price.

NEED OF COACHING

Then the question of couching needs to be taken up seriously by the A. I. L. T. A. and the provincial associations. All promising youngsters should be given sound coaching so that they may give up their defects early and develop their strong points with all the zeal and earnestness they are capable of. Tactics and court-craft they can learn by watching great players in big matches. And experience they will gain by playing in major tournaments in different parts of the country. These will be possible only when our provincial bodies and leading clubs have strengthened their position—particularly from the financial point of view. Perhaps they will take a little time before than put their house on a sound footing. But this must be done as early as possible.

DIVISION OF HONOURS

The results of the National Championships held both in Bombay and Calcutta show that Northern India held the whip hand in the men's events. At the Bombay Gymkhana, Narendra Nath claimed the honours in singles, while Iftikhar Ahmed and Irshad Hussain did so in doubles. Iftikhar had actually figured in three finals. The mixed doubles title also came in his way, as Khanum Singh was unable to play off the final owing to a leg injury. Bombay was nowhere in the picture in these events. barring I. M. Kantawalla and the abovementioned member of the fair sex.

In the women's singles Leela Dayal avenged her previous defeats at the hands of Khanum, her agility and steadfastness standing Leela in good stead against her less determined rival. It was indeed a revelation to see Leela still in her fighting elements. Khanum might have bagged both the doubles events, were it not for her forced exit from the mixed which deprived Kantawalla also of a title. A player, new to Bombay, who created an excellent impression was Mrs. C. V. N. Shastri. She went down rather unexpectedly to Mrs. Singh.

QUESTION OF PROFESSIONALISM

But as I have said above, the class of tennis exhibited by all the players was far below the pre-war standard. Every effort will therefore have to be made to raise it not only to the previous level but far above it. In this connection it may be worth over while to consider the question of professionalism. It is recognised on all hands that a player cannot devote much of his time in the cultivation of his game unless he is amply provided with funds I need hardly mention that the wealthy class of people who can easily afford it, rarely take up the game seriously. So those who do so are always in pecuniary difficulties.

Under the present conditions, they cannot make an honest living out of the game. The International rules about amateur status forbid a player from receiving anything more than is laid down by them. In consequence sham-amatuerism has come into being in every part of the world. This can be stopped only by a fair recognition of the principle of professionalism.

DISTINCTION MUST GO

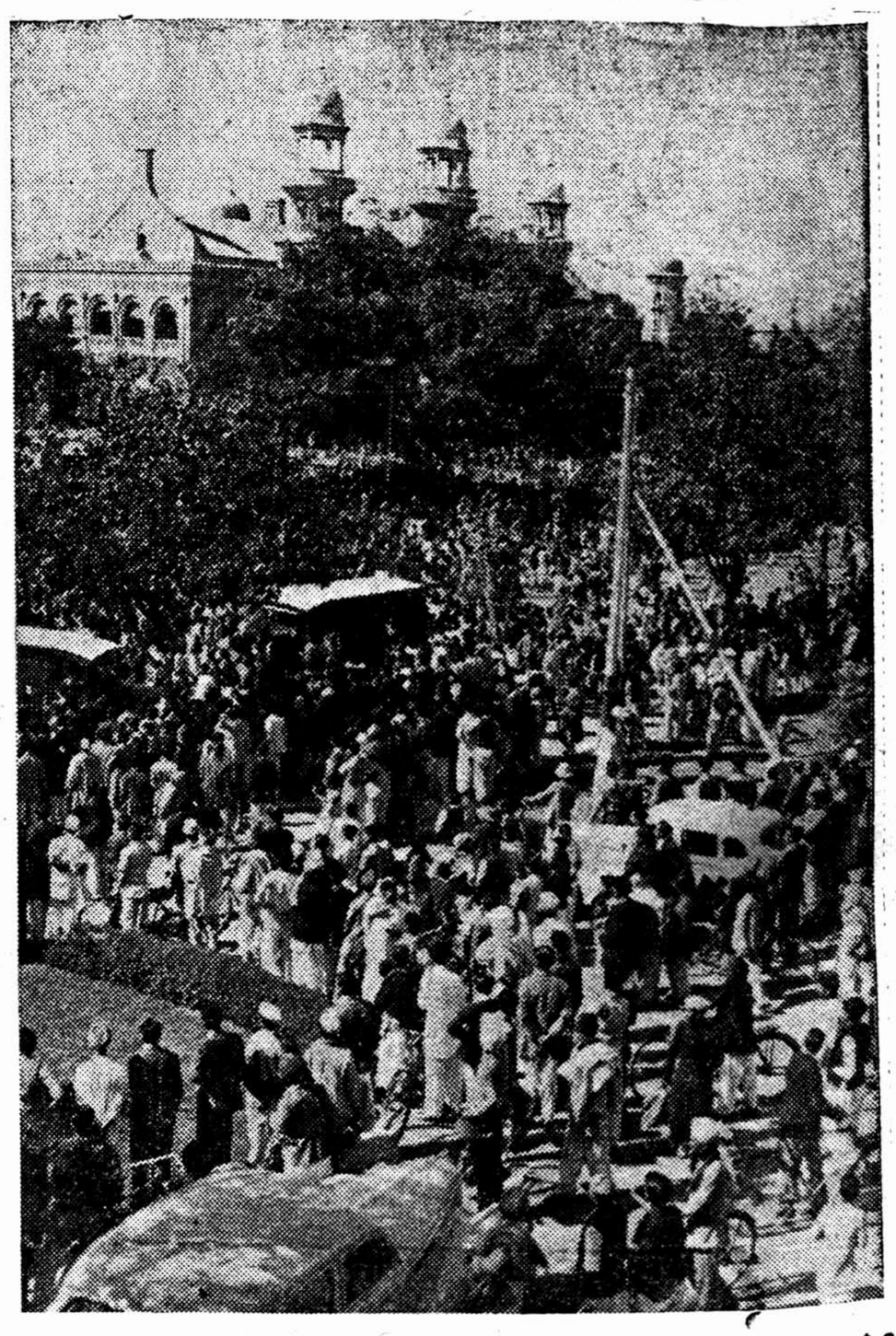
Of course nobody prohibits anybody to become a professional and make an honest living out of it. But there are such hard restrictions which make it impossible to get the full value of his talents. Not only that, he is almost ostracised as a player. He cannot participate in any open competition—or even in an exhibition match— along with amateurs. England and America have rigidly held on to this antiquated principle based on snobbery. It is feared by the rulers of tennis in these countries that if professionals are allowed to play with amateurs the former would gradually become the masters of the situation This fear is groundless as cricket golf and other games in which amateurs and professionals play together, have proved. Of course this is a matter for the International body to decide. But unless an intensive agitation is carried on in every country the necessary change will take long to come.

TRAINING ABROAD

Until this healthy change is ushered in, professionals must keep off the amateur courts. On account of this ban, several of the most prominent players of the world—from "Bill" Tilden to Donald Budge—left their amateur status and joined the ranks of professional in the pre-war days. Women stars also have been lured to their fold.

Needless to mention, the professional circles became richer by their inclusion, and an amateur ranks poorer by their desertion. So the depletion will continue until the world realises the futility—and stupidity of this sort of water-tight compartments in the field of sport. Meanwhile, we must continue to improve our standard as best as we can. It is a good thing the AILTA will send our best men and women players to Europe next summer to participate in Davis Cup and Wimbledon tournament. It is only by playing abroad: our leading players would be able to gauge their own strength and improve their game by gaining more experience.

UNION JACK PULLED DOWN



A part view of the huge demonstrators who collected after taking out a procession in front of the High Court Building and police used teargas when they pulled down the Union Jack and hoisted their own flag on the building of the High Court, Lahore. The High Court building can be seen without the usual Union flag.

IS IT TRUE?

That the Australians are stunned by the unique record by Evans in the Fourth Test Match when he managed to keep his score-sheet blank for no less than 97 minutes?

That Evans is angry because the Australian fieldsmen put ten runs to his credit when he made every effort to carry the valuable blob to the last ditch?

That Lindsay Hassett is girding up his loins to establish a record for all time by keeping his end up for six days without scoring a single run in the Final Test?

That Hassett is sorry that the Test rules do not permit the game to be continued indefinitely, in which case he might have carried on till eternity in the same strain?

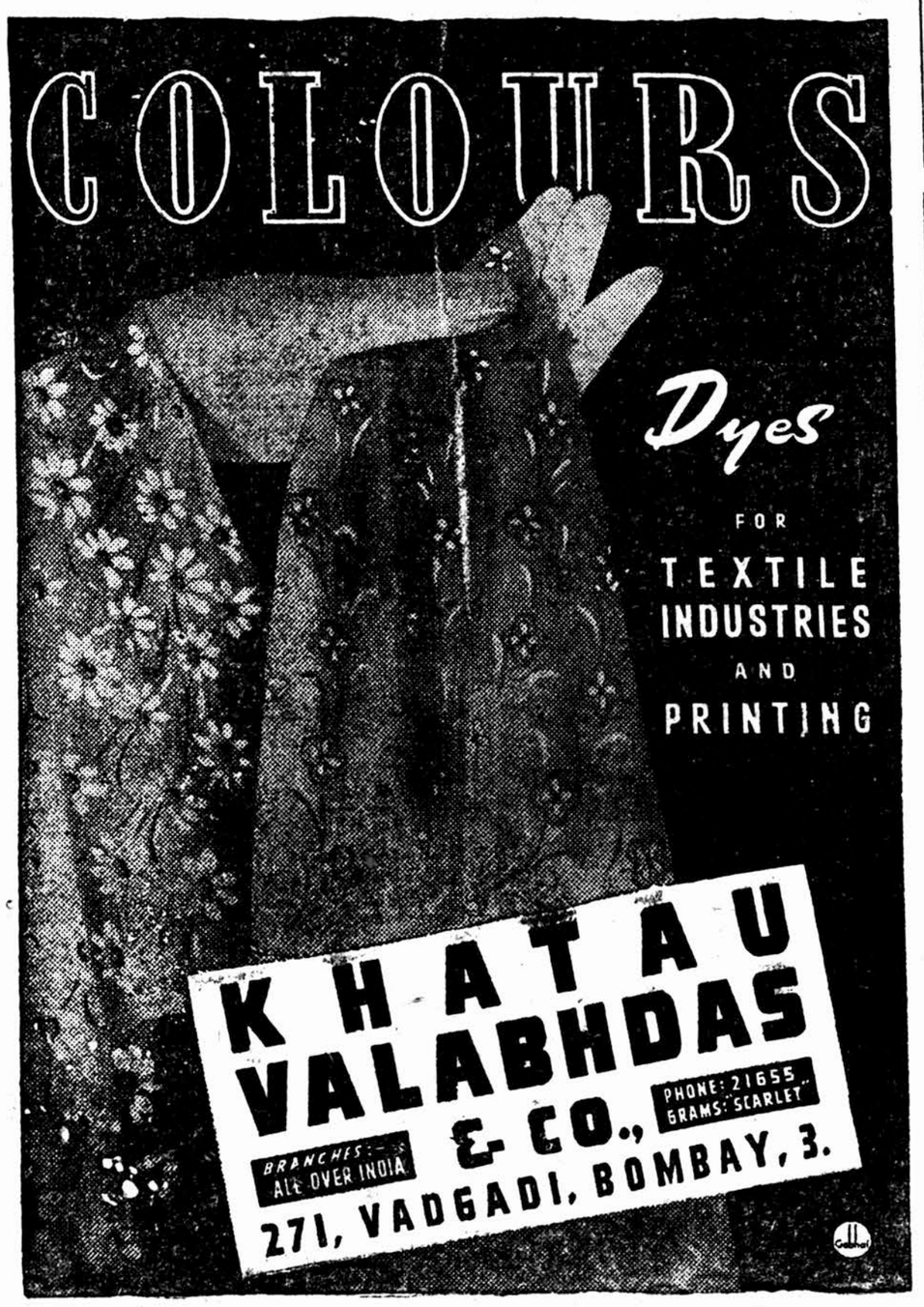
That Duleep is annoved because the B. C. C. I. did not send some experts to Australia to study these mammoth efforts on the spot?

That the Indian batsmen are confident that they can produce any number of ducks without wasting any time on their production?

That they think that duck-producing will be one of their prime achievements during the coming Australian tour?

That our bowlers on the other hand, do not bother about blobs or indefinite stone-walling at their expense?

That they are anxious to know how to keep the Aussies scores to reasonable limits or how to get Bradman and Co. out at all?



Let us talk it over—

Whether there is going to be Pakistan or not, one thing has been irrevocably settled by the happenings in the Punjab, and that is, there will not be a Zanana-stan.

This in itself is a great achievement even for Pakistan, the advisability of which is still in question. This column however, is hardly a place for discussing that question for it will mean getting involved in party politics from which may heavens save us! Are we so blind as not to see how the frustrated Tory party in Britain is making a capital out of a situation threatening national disaster? The Brave Britons are short of housing, clothing, food and even heat in the worst winter while the Tories are gleeful over the prospects of censuring the Labour Government! Of course ultimately much depends upon the democratically minded Britons themselves.

In our own country, however, the two major parties are quarreling over the framing of a free India's constitution. But this disagreement is harming the physical constitution of the millions whom the parties claim to represent! Because in this quarrel (which seems to be deliberately prolonged by yet another party!) urgent tasks of housing, clothing and food receive scant attention in spite of the fact that both the parties are represented in the Central Government! So then, let's keep away from the party strife and turn to the subject proper.

* * *

During the last decade, Muslim leaders have called upon their women time and again to work for the goal of Pakistan. They asked them to be good mothers, teachers, nurses and even doctors. But with all this talk doesn't the presence of a veiled woman member on the League Working Committee strike as a jarring sight to the eye? And that reminds me of a discussion I had with a Muslim friend whose wife observes 'partial purdah'. I was a bit puzzled by this kind of purdah because when I first dined with the couple along with some other friends and a European gentleman, my hostess did sit with us in her lovely shalwar-khamis.

But I was astounded to see her coming to my house in a burqua! And that too when her husband and she had come in a taxi! That was too much for me and I plunged the small party of friends in a serious discussion on the hateful system of the purdah. The husband of my fair guest put forth some lame excuses and in the end said that she herself didn't want to discard burqua while passing through public places. To which the better half didn't give a direct lie but we knew from her murmered protest that it was a hollow argument!

Ordinarily, this performance wouldn't have surprised me. After all that's exactly how all reactionaries try to explain away things. But for the fact that my friend claimed to be a modern and a progressive person. I am sure, the like of him (whether Hindu or Muslim) would prevail upon their sisters or wives to take a sip of cider or sherry for the sake of etiquette (even though it is against religion) but they don't bother to argue out the pros and cons of harmful social usages with their kith and kin and be really progressive in practice.

* * *

While India appears to be the last country to have come under the purdah system, she remains its only strong hold still. It could never seriously affect society in the South, nevertheless its grasp had been very firm on the Bengalis, Biharis, Punjabis, Sindhis, and on the Hindus as well as the Muslims. The absence of any religious sanctions enabled the former to discard it but not without great opposition. The Muslim women, however have been kept under the spirit-killing veil under the pretext of religion.

And what does the Holy Koran say about the women and the veil—the Hijab. Women are enjoined to cover their adornments, the hair, the neck and the bust before strangers. The enshrouding of the face and the eyes is found only in India and what it has cost can be seen from the comparative figures of Muslim women victims to tuberculosis. But the politicians and the Priests have not given much attention to it. It is therefore very fortunate indeed that the veiled women of Punjab have stepped out from the four walls of their homes to face lathi charge and tear gas. Apart from the achievement of their immediate goal, their participation will finally spell the doom of the veil! So wish you God speed sister. ....

—*Leela.*

Diagnosis And Cure Of

TEEN-AGE TROUBLES

By Sarla Mukhi

Adolescence is perhaps the most difficult period in one's life. Then one is neither a child nor an adult. A strange physical and mental consciousness takes possession of the erstwhile child's being and he is hardly aware of the pitfalls before him.

If is the duty not only of the parents concerned but of society as a whole to guide the adolescent into the proper channels. Everything possible should be done to enable him or her to grow into a useful and responsible member of society.

At fifteen I was a tall gangling girl, all arms and legs as the saying goes. I suffered from a perpetual feeling of self in an unattractive blush whenever any one so much as spoke to me.

Recollection of that period of adolescence is still painful, for psychology had not yet invaded the classroom, and the best of teachers and parents believed in the maxim, "What was good enough for us is good enough for the children." Today we have Child Guidance Clinics and trained teachers but the adolescent hardly gets a break, and our string of juvenile delinquents and maladjusted young men and women continues to grow. Somehow Society seems to have forgotten that the adolescent is a problem by himself and fits into the category of neither child nor man.

Moreover it seems to be taken for granted that adolescence and maturity are synonymous. That is however not so and to ignore the feelings and ideas of the adolescent is to give hundreds of growing children a feeling of insecurity and inferiority which may mar and distort their pattern of behaviour in the years to come.

Vast Mental Changes

The advent and growth of adolescence, varying between the ages of twelve and twenty, is marked by a physical and mental change when the child as it were blooms and touches the fringes of maturity. During this period the child passes through vast mental changes to which we pay little if any heed, believing somewhat irrationally that the child having attained his teens, has grown up. Thus what should be a gradual process of mental development, covering in many cases from five to seven years is taken for granted as a fact accomplished overnight.

In our country adolescence begins earlier than in the colder countries, and due to the exigencies of existence is much shorter lived. At seventeen or eighteen a boy is often expected to shoulder the burdens of a grown man; a girl has taken on the responsibility of rearing a family. In America this is the carefree age of the bobby-soxers and teen-agers, who lead as uninhibited an existence as any young animal could wish for.

Our conditions being different we cannot transplant the tradition of the bobby-soxers into this country and thus consider the adolescent problem solved. But we can and certainly should pay more heed to the mental needs of the child who is on the threshold of life, so that, with sympathy and understanding, we may help him to grow gracefully into maturity rather than be hurtled headlong into it.

Puberty brings in its train deep emotional and mental conflicts. The child so sure and dependent on its parents suddenly finds himself facing a word that seems to have changed. Strange dreams and desires battle with conscience and duty, and the child is rocked on an ocean of indecision not knowing where to turn. He finds he is neither child nor man, for when he behaves childishly he is admonished and reminded that he has grown up. He tries to be assertive and independent like a grown up but this time he is told that he is but a child. Even in trivial matters like choosing a tie or coat he must submit to the parental choice. Not to do so is to be disrespectful by their standards.

State Of Conflict

Shuttled ceaselessly between these two norms, the adolescent continues to live in a state of conflict not knowing when he will be called upon to be grown up and when expected to be a child. Complexes and inhibitions begin to form and the child loses all confidence in himself. He either becomes a listless automaton or goes to the other extreme and emerges a little Hitler out of sheer aggressiveness. Peace and stability go out of his life and he becomes a prey to fears and anxieties in his attempt to find some solid footing in this slippery world.

It is at this stage too that boys and girls begin to take an interest in the opposite sex. Boys of ten and twelve who scoff at girls and call girl-admirers sissies, become ardent cavaliers at fifteen or sixteen.

To the surprise and bewilderment of many a parent the unruly tomboy whose hands and knees were never free of smudges, changes into a dandy who is always worried about the crease in his trousers and who carries a pocket comb to keep his unruly curls in place. Young girls afflicted by the vanity of Eve spend hours before the mirror studying the rise and fall of a pimple whereby might hang many a romance. It is all so human, so lovable and yet so heartbreaking. Never does the world seem such a wonderful place to be in, nor is there any task too difficult to be done.

This is the age of great enthusiasms and equally great despair. Great dreams are dreamt, promises made, even world shaking reforms planned, yet let one illusion break and the whole world is in ruins. With the same enthusiasm with which he welcomed life, the adolescent turns his thoughts Hamlet-like, to death. This extreme sensitivity runs like a spider's web through every thought and action of his. Between extremes of joy and pain the boy has still to find his balance, still to learn that hearts once broken mend rather surprisingly, that what seemed hopeless yesterday may still have a vestige of hope tomorrow, and that life is not so simple as to be measured by the standard of undiluted pain or undiluted joy.

The Difficult Period

Most teachers and many a parent must be aware of the difficult and unpredictable moods they have to face at this stage and few understand them. Many an uninhibited child becomes moody, reserved and self-conscious. He avoids people and is chary of letting anyone probe into his inner self, and many a parent, not understanding this psychological change becomes resentful, harsh and unsympathetic of his offspring's waywardness. It is a truly difficult period for both parent and child, but since the wiser parent must guide and help the youngster it is better to accept the change and prepare for it in such a way as to make things least difficult for both.

Little things help to ingrain a sense of security and self-confidence, the lack of which may lead from heart-break to suicide and juvenile delinquency. Every time the adolescent is frustrated or made to feel small, he tries sub-consciously to make up for this in some way or the other. He becomes aggressive, turns into a bully and indulges in boasting and strutting about. Or in the other extreme he takes on a martyr complex convinced that no one likes him. In some instances there is a definite trend towards anti-social behaviour when the child takes to stealing and telling lies. A father who did not believe in letting his children have an allowance of their own was aghast when he found his child pilfering small change from the house and even from his comrades!

He was a generous enough father in his own estimation for his children were well fed and well clothed. They received expensive sweets and presents from their parents yet his child stole just to buy a few anna's worth of sweets in school. A well-meaning father no doubt, but not a very understanding one. One of the things grown ups fail to remember is that the thrill of growing up is to be allowed to feel grown-up. So a limited allowance to every child—money that is his very own to save or spend—is more important to the child's "amour-propre" than any number of expensive presents given by the parents. Not only will the adolescent feel the pride and thrill of spending his own money but he will also learn to appreciate its value. That is surely a good and necessary preparation for the future.

Expecting Too Much

Over-indulgence however can be as bad as complete denial for in neither case does the child feel his responsibilities nor does he appreciate his privileges. Pampered children sheltered like hot-house plants only grow up to be a liability on an already overburdened structure of society. They are never allowed to make minor decisions when young, so major decisions baffle them when they are older; never having known the knocks of misfortune they collapse under the very first impact of misery and few if any survive. There are no loving parents then to shield them from the hard blows of fate and fortune and they either join the ranks of the disgruntled or fade into oblivion.

Misguided kindness on the part of parents leads the child to expect too much from life and the reality and frustration of an adult world only saddle him with a handicap in the race for competitive existence. Many a loving mother has gone without some cherished article so that her daughter might have all the luxuries she desires. Not having been taught to share, such a child begins to expect all attention for herself and considers it her birthright to be given the best. When a husband is unable to immolate himself on the shrine of his wife's demands the girl, who has been taught no better, begins to feel herself ill-treated and begins to have a hankering for death as a sub-consciously-felt means of escape.

Adolescence therefore should be a vast training ground for the serious business of life and mature living. It is the time to instil self-reliance and encourage resourcefulness in the growing child. In the West a daughter is taught from a very early age to help the mother in the daily domestic round, the son to do odd jobs and contribute in little ways to the harmonious running of the house. The most valuable lesson in life, that of co-operative living and consideration for others, is thus taught in a natural normal way from the early stages of growth and development.

Tie To Apron Strings

During adolescence if any of the children are earning a living, they pay a nominal sum towards their board and keep—not because their parents love them less than ours who pamper us, but because the child is thus enabled to feel the pride of pay-

(Continued on Page 21)

WOMEN'S PAGE

Mrs. Krishna Hutheesingh, photographed in New York. She is at present on a three months lecture tour of America.

WOMEN IN PRISON

"Shadows On The Wail", By Krishna Hutheesingh. Kutub Publishers, Bombay. Price Rs. 4-8.

India is a land of many temples. But more numerous than any other are the temples built to pay homage to British Imperial Power—the temples where the devotees walk about in fetters and the highpriests wield the truncheon and the whip cord. As instruments of an alien terror the Indian prisons were fashioned for a purpose other than only the humdrum one of containing anti-socials

One among the many votaries of nationalism who had perforce to do penance behind these temple walls was Krishna Hutheesingh. Out of her experiences there have come these dozen and odd stories of women in prison

The stories are not confined to the political prisoners,—the college girls who had courted arrest in a spirit of bravado, the frivolous ones who had gone to jail as though bound for a picnic and some who had gone with deep devotion in their hearts but did not return to the outer prison that was India—but also deals with the other denizens of the prison world. the wardresses, the thiefs, the perverts and the murderers, the criminals who had tried to take the wrong exit from tyranny and oppressing circumstances.

The stories therefore run the whole gamut from high politics to mundane passion. They are told with simplicity and charm. Perhaps the very simplicity may be construed as a fault in our complex-ridden and surrealistic age. Another likely flaw is perhaps the author's apparent overemphasis on sex as the root of all crime. But in this she has Freud on her side. After all the stories do not deal with the normal run of humanity. They deal with those who had dared 'to do' against society and its laws. The cry for justice against the weight of social iniquities echo and re-echo through the many tragic tales that Krishna Hutheesingh has to tell.

The shadows on the wall following one another in disorder and disarry are therefore not silhouetted to a set pattern, but are shades enough to disturb a prison 'Macbeth' sitting at his feast.

N. M. R.

A Valuable Guide

THE MIND OF MAHATMA GANDHI, Compiled by R. K. Prabhu and U. R. Rao (Oxford University Press, Price Rs. 4).

When the first edition of this wise and judicious selection from the writings of Mahatma Gandhi appeared two years ago, it supplied a felt want. This second revised and enlarged edition indicates that happily the want is growing. A much greater number of people, particularly in the West, are now keen on studying what Gandhiji stands for. To them this compilation will continue to prove a valuable guide.

The edition has the advantage of a brief but illuminating foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnan, who in a few brilliant sentences disproves the "common criticism" that Mahatma Gandhi's vision outsoars his perception. The Mahatma is a man with a definite mission and a clear-cut message. He has laboured all through a strenuous life to urge that humanity must progress in such a way that a stage will come into its development where "love and law" will be one.

One wishes the compilers had given more space to Gandhiji's utterances on non-violence. But they have made amends by extensive quotations in a later chapter on what he has to remark on "non-violence in peace and war." As between cowardice and violence Gandhiji says "I would risk violence a thousand times rather than the emasculation of a whole race." In giving the reader an adequate idea about the ethical contribution of Gandhiji to the development of the higher values of life, the compilers had a difficult task. This they have accomplished with skill and patience. Only a deep and long study of his writings could have enabled them to cull out the most telling and informative passages relating to his ideas on Satyagraha, on love, and on faith.

Particularly during the present times when we have a plethora of plans for industrialising India, Gandhiji's remarks on man versus machine will repay constant study. He recognises that machinery has come to stay but warns us that "mass-production takes no note of the real requirements of the consumer." We are also likely to forget the full implication of another of his penetrating observations. "The supreme consideration is man. The machine should not tend to make atrophied the limbs of man."

Some 'obiter dicta" of Gandhiji which close the volume add to its usefulness. So does the Chronology giving important landmarks in his career. It is brought up-to-date, July 1946 when he attended the Simla Conference being mentioned as the last date. A glance at this chronology during 1940 to last year is a convincing proof of the astonishing fact that the history of political India during these years is intimately and pre-eminently connected with the activities of the Mahatma during that eventful period.

It is indeed a pity that the evident necessity of making the volume compact prevented the compilers from giving greater space to Gandhiji's observations on Untouchability. But it is good to find in it his magnificent outburst "I could far rather that Hinduism died than that untouchability lived." One should be also grateful for the inclusion in the volume of his remark "If I had no sense of humour, I should long ago have committed suicide."

This is, indeed, a volume which no student of the history of human progress can afford to omit from his shelves.

L. G. KHARE.

"India Today"

R. Palme Dutt's famous book has been brought out in a revised Indian edition by the People's Publishing House, Bombay, (Rs. 7|8). It will be remembered that this Communist classic on India was first published in England in 1940. It was promptly banned here though a number of copies did find their way to this country. A large part of the edition was destroyed in the blitz and the author took the advantage of his visit to India last year to revise it thoroughly and bring it up to date.

A detailed review will appear in an early issue of this paper.

Forthcoming Books

NATIONAL INFORMATION AND PUBLICATIONS Ltd., will publish on 1st March 1947 the two following books.

The first is "CONFLICT" a novel by Aamir Ali a young writer of promise. It presents the "Conflict" going on all around us in India.

The second "RANDOM SELECTIONS" is a collection of essays mostly written by our well-known leaders like Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya J. B. Kripalani, Mulk Raj Anand, C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. J. M. Cousins etc.

"I The Buddha"

Hind Kitabs Ltd., Bombay, announce the publication of "I the Buddha" By Shri J. Vijayatunga (Re. 1-4) the well-known Ceylonese author and journalist. This is a daring exposition of the teaching of the Blessed One in the light of grim and complex realities of today.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

I received a cruelly sad news the other day—about the passing away of sister A. S. Sita of New Delhi. She had not been keeping good health for a pretty long time—Nonetheless, she always kept in touch with me—and even a few days before her death, she wrote to me a letter, giving information about herself and about her Balkan-ji-Bari Branch. The news at the first instance, appeared so unbelievable!

Young Sita started taking interest in this "Children's Own Corner" first, and then in our monthly journal "PUSHPA—The Children's Own Paper." Through these, she began to feel like becoming one of the Balkan-ji-Bari, and doing all she could for the Association. She collected a few girls and boys in her neighbourhood, and established a Balkan-ji-Bari Centre in New Delhi. And she was the first Secretary—and later, she became its President. Although quite young, how nicely she shouldered the responsibilities.....Those who have been in touch with our activities knew fully well about her efforts to popularise Balkan-ji-Bari in Delhi, by holding various kinds of interesting functions and by inviting different personalities to her centre. Within quite a short period Delhi had become one of the biggest strongholds of the Balkan-ji-Bari.

I remember having visited her a few years back at New Delhi. A small, frail creature, she was full of great enthusiasms. She was dreaming of making Delhi a Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari Centre, for by that time some more Branches of the Association had been established in Delhi. Well, she would have done lots more for the children's cause. But a full blooming flower has been nipped in the bud. And, after all, how can we human beings ever scrutinise God's ways? His will be done, and we have heard that whom Gods love die young. It must have been a greater shock to her parents and sibblings, to whom and to the whole fraternity of the Balkan-ji-Bari, we offer our heart-felt condolences. As I said, we human beings must but remain content with God's ways—So, we pray: May Sister Sita's soul ever rest in Peace!

The New Delhi Balkan-ji-Bari, I understand, has decided to award a scholarship in her memory. I do hope, not only the Delhi and New Delhi Balkan-ji-Bari Branches, but all our centres throughout the country, will emulate the example of the late sister Sita, by working with the same zeal and enthusiasm as she used to do, and thus keep her memory green always!

Important Balkan-ji-Bari workers of Sind (left) and of Patna and Delhi (right).

* * *

BALKAN-JI-BARI ACTIVITIES

The Independence Day was celebrated by the Ghatkopar and Khar Balkan-ji-Baris, besides other centres, by hoisting the National Flag. Khar Balkan-ji-Bari children visited Kher Wadi, and Ghatkopar Balkan-ji-Bari had a programme by "Rajnam." The latter Balkan-ji-Bari also celebrated its Anniversary under the presidentship of Shri Babubhai Vaidya. A very interesting programme by children and workers was arranged on the occasion. Bhuleshwar Balkan-ji-Bari went to see 'en block' the drama "Deewar." A new centre of Balkan-ji-Bari has been started at Dadar. And at the recently started Kasar Wadi Centre of the Balkan-ji-Bari at Matunga, a large meeting was held under the presidentship of Shri Shewak Bhojraj, who praised the work of the residents, and encouraged them to continue on with their efforts. Karachi Balkan-ji-Bari celebrated their Annual Day under the presidentship of the Mayor of that place, who appreciated their work and promised to help them in their undertakings.

All boys and girls can join the Great Brotherhood of Balkan-ji-Bari —Akhil Hind Balak Sangh. Please send for its full particulars, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing nine pies stamps for postage, from Dada—"Gulistan," Khar—Bombay 21. He will be glad to hear from you always!

All Good Wishes from
Your loving,
Dada

"Gulistan"
Khar - Bombay 21

Two children's Dance Items at their Annual Day Celebration at Karachi.

unlikely there will be any financial legacy for this work from U.N.R.R.A.

Will America continue to lend to Europe? The tendency lessens now that the Republicans are in power. And with the best will in the world it is unlikely that Congress would get legislation through before the end of March. By then some nations may stare at disaster. In Austria, for instance, the situation is critical. Austrians will no longer see U.N.R.R.A. food after the middle of March. Poland still flounders in post-war chaos.

Nations Need Credits

Yugoslavia has performed miracles of rehabilitation, and would have owned a healthy larder but for a fearful drought before the last maize harvest—the country's staple food. The Greeks, on the other hand, have failed to make great strides in reshaping their country, mainly because of political instability. Appreciable progress is reported from Italy, but many basic commodities—chiefly coal—are needed for the northern industries. And U.N.R.R.A. funds will only satisfy the needs for grain imports until the end of February.

These are only a few facets of an untidy and dismal end to a great enterprise. One of the dire problems is

U.N.R.R.A. GOES—HUNGER STAYS!

(Continued from Page 5)

the supply of agricultural and industrial equipment to help the recovery of these war-stricken countries. Regrettably many of U.N.R.R.A.'s contracts will remain uncompleted. What is to happen? Will these struggling countries be left to arrange their own credits? Most of the goods have been ordered in America, and the State Department has already made it clear that from now on the U.S.A. will extend credits only to its friends.

D. P. Problem Is Urgent

Another tragedy involves displaced persons. U.N.R.R.A. will continue to be responsible for camps until the end of June, when it is hoped they will be taken over by the proposed United Nations International Relief Organisation. This body is still in embryo. U.N.R.R.A. has warned governments that they must decide by March 31, whether or not they propose to fashion this humanitarian instrument, which can only start work when 15 governments have approved and 65 per cent of the budget is agreed. Unless the United Nations take speedy action U.N.R.R.A. will be compelled to say in June: "Our funds are exhausted." In Europe U.N.R.R.A. has assisted n the repatriation of some 6,000,000 unfortunates. How many more will be disposed of raises political, racial, and economic questions beyond U. N. R. R. A.'s control.

Thanks largely to U.N.R.R.A.'s medical missions, no serious epidemics have racked what remains of Europe's social structure. Fortunately the World Health Organisation—its successor as the world's doctor—has set up its practice in Geneva. But much has to be done, and unless it is done quickly international organisation might easily fail.

New Food Crisis This Year

This criticism also applied to the livestock situation. Seven European countries—Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Italy and Austria—lost over 2,500,000 horses and mules and more than 11,000,000 head of the cattle during the war. Tractors can replace only about one-tenth of the total draught power losses of these countries. No appreciable headway can be made in domestic breeding while the grain shortage continues.

If, therefore, imports cannot be financed another food crisis may arise this year. U.N.R.R.A. experts warn: "This would set back...slowly recovering industry and shatter...precariously poised financial structure."

In any event, the outlook for further industrial recovery is shrouded in uncertainty. The dominant obstacle to recovery after liberation was destroyed or enfeebled transport. U.N.R.R.A. coped with this crisis to some extent with trucks. Now, the prevailing coal shortage in Europe, the disappearance of Germany as an industrial supplier, and the lack of managerial and skilled personnel will continue to present acute handicaps. A severe shortage of foreign exchange would limit industrial recovery even further.

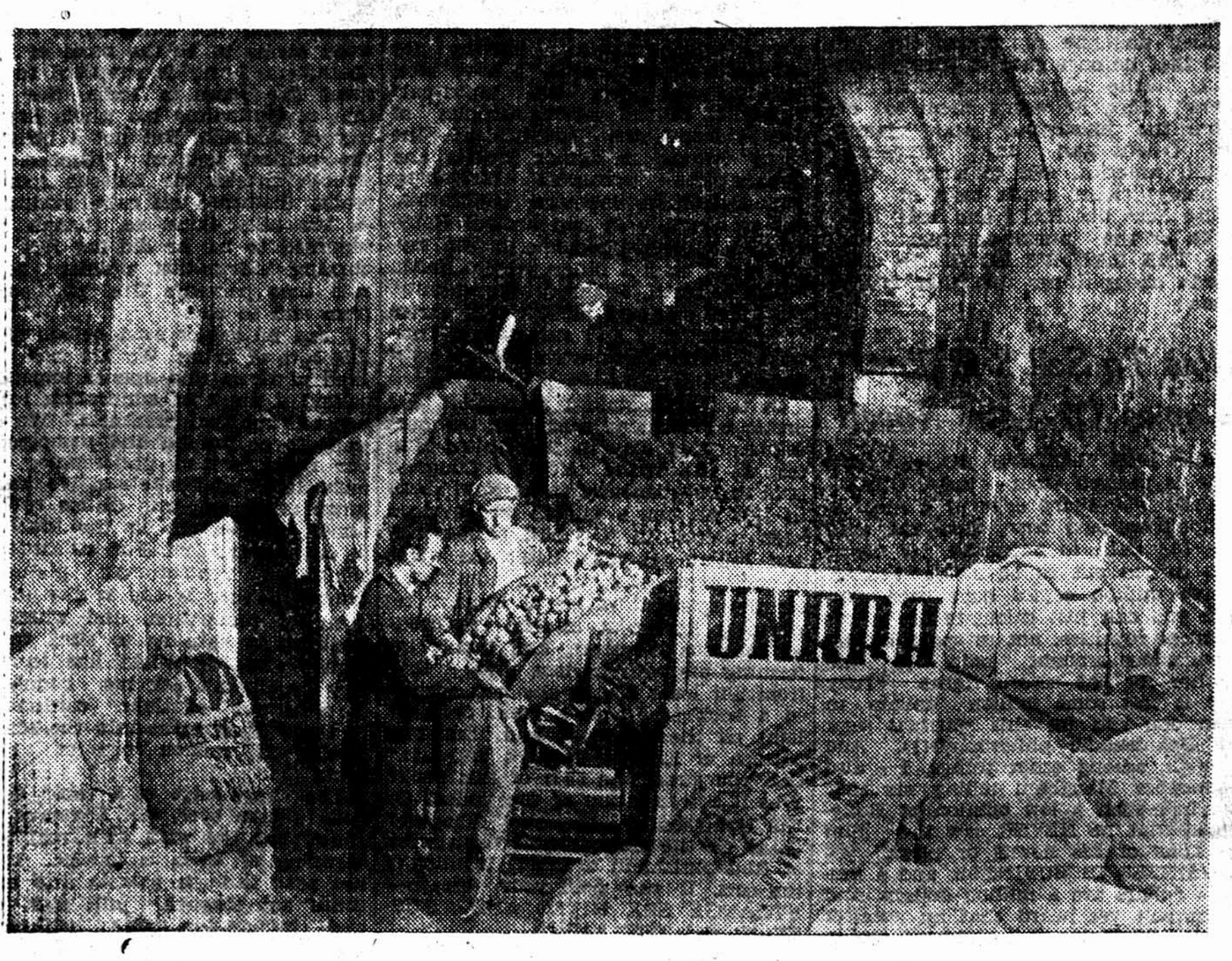
Inflation Again A Menace

Midway through 1946 the European countries helped by U.N.R.R.A. managed to stave off inflation. The volume of imports which these nations can obtain this year will primarily determine whether monetary stability can be maintained.

The months ahead are critical. U. N. R.R.A.'s deliveries have been restricted to countries which lacked sufficient foreign exchange to finance their relief and rehabilitation imports. To a vast extent these imports were normal essential needs, which the countries themselves financed in pre-war days.

The twin tasks of relief and rehabilitation, which, with a limited amount of foreign assistance could be substantially achieved this year, will, if ignored, be protracted for years, inflicting misery on populations already severely tried.

Hunger throws out a challenge. This year millions might face starvation. A world-wide campaign must be planned. Above all, food must not become a political weapon through the duress of need.



Each time this Vienna potato storehouse is filled, it is emptied again within two days. UNRRA, which has distributed supplies to the value of £900,000,000, ceased to receive contributions from the nations at the beginning of 1947. The storehouse cannot be filled many more times, for funds will soon have run out. Who then will feed the people who depended on these supplies? That is ravaged Europe's question mark.

ing for himself and to realise that he has grown up. Along with responsibility he is given privileges and when he marries he is encouraged to have a home of his own so that he and his wife may live and plan a life of their own.

With us things are very different. The daughter of a fairly well-to-do family cannot be allowed to do such menial work as helping in the house. There are plenty of servants and if perchance there happen to be none one fine day, then it is the mother who takes on the burden of running the house. Of course this is not a general rule, but most parents err by seeking to protect their children from the seamy side of life and then wonder why those children grow up to be neurotics and misfits. When the children marry, the emotional attachment of many a parent heads the marriage to the rocks.

There is Mother always to give advice as of yore and while the wife finds nothing odd in continuing her childhood dependence on her mother, the poor husband wonders whether Mamma will ever leave them alone to live and suffer for themselves.

And if it isn't the girls' parents who are in the picture then it is the boys. Boys who are tied to the apron-strings of their mothers remain retarded adolescents even when they have attained maturity and are married. Domestic entanglements ensure when a new factor—the wife enters, because the emotional umbilical cord between mother and son has not been severed.

Thus training given during the sensitive and impressionable years of adolescence is more valuable than all the degrees and distinctions of a

TEEN-AGE TROUBLES

(Continued from Page 19)

purely academic career. Naturally all restraints and restrictions cannot be summarily removed from the path of the growing child, but a beginning should be made and as more and more liberty is given to the child so also must he be taught both at home and in schools and colleges how that liberty entails responsibility Mutual trust and confidence between youngsters and adults, also mutual respect and a spirit of give and take, will lead children to confide and trust in their parents instead of causing them to be secretive and distrustful and afraid.

No loss of pride or grace is entailed if parents were to explain things to their children instead of tabooing forthright something the child does not understand is wrong. I feel personally that adolescents are more responsive to a comradely appeal than to a dictatorial order. As a teacher with a class of teen-agers I always found that an appeal to their better natures had more gratifying results than a command which they were expected to obey just because I happened to be their teacher and thus in a position of authority.

More than once a strike or a stampede was averted by allowing them to talk of their problems freely and enabling them to express their point of view with regard to a particular situation. After that I would place before them the point of view of the authorities and after discussion a compromise was affected to the satisfaction of all. Both sides had a fair chance to air their opinions, without fear or favour, and more often than not the teen-agers showed a surprising insight into and understanding of our difficulties. Instead of being teacher and taught with a huge wall of authority dividing us, we were just comrades approaching a common problem from two different angles.

The Romantic Urge

But the most difficult thing for parents to tackle during this "difficult age" is the awakening of the romantic urge in their children. Being a natural biological urge it cannot be killed, but it can be guided into healthy and socially useful channels. Elders are scandalised at mere mention of a love affair and what would probably have been a case of calf love turns into a secret and unhealthy passion.

Perversity impels the adolescent to hug and cherish his secret. If parents would only talk about it casually, show an interest in it while at the same time offering some suitable distraction to the child, all would be well. Society must be prepared to tackle such problems sympathetically and what is more, constructively. Clubs for young people where there are plenty of outdoor games, co-education in the friendliest sense of the word and the natural normal mixing of the sexes will remove the veil of mystery with which the opposite sex is invested by segregated members of boys and girls.

Many a mother is heading her daughter for the wrong choice when she dogmatically decrees that the girl is not to play with the boy next door. Only yesterday the two children were playmates sharing each others books and games—overnight it seems to the girl something has happened.

She is not allowed to play with boys. There must be something awfully mysterious about them. She becomes self-conscious in their presence and soon begins to imagine every young man in love with her. The very first one she comes to know is a little seems to her Prince Charming himself. She imagines herself in love and the round of heartache, despair and disillusionment follows to the accompaniment of parental sermons. Life is certainly made hard for the adolescent. It is better to train the child in mature thinking so that he might make the right choice when the right time comes rather than to drive him to the wrong choice by lack of understanding.

"We Know Better!"

Parents and teachers have always harped on the theme, "We know better." True they know better and are more experienced but there must be a stage when the youngster must learn through his own experience. Times change, so also must experience. Just as the parent guided the tiny infant to walk on its two legs so once again the parent must guide the adolescent to find his mental legs. Youth resents bondage and autocratic commands, it is only too willing to accept comradely guidance. Much better to teach tolerance and patience, co-operation and consideration by one's thought and actions than to demand rigid obedience to one's own pattern of life.

Give the adolescent sympathy and understanding, instil in him a sense of security and self-confidence, give him opportunities to exercise his judgment and to think fearlessly. Teach him to be a worthy member of the home and school with responsibilities and also privileges, and I am sure the adolescent will repay the trouble a hundredfold by growing up to be a worthy member of a society that badly needs reorientation.

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

"But India—that is above all the place. Not British India but the South, the native States. When I went I avoided the British, I got letters to the native Rajahs and sages and their courts; and I found, the moment people discovered you hadn't come to sell them anything, such courtesy and desire to help and make you understand as I have never found anywhere. Nothing is so fascinating as the Indian mind and the Indian intelligence once you are admitted to it, and there are quite extraordinary people to be met, absolutely remarkable"

—*SOMERSET MAUGHAM, the British novelist and playwright, in an interview in which he advised the aspiring young writer to go to South America, Far East and, above all, INDIA.*

"Where have you come from now?"
"India".
"How long were you there?"
"Five years".
"Did you have fun? Shoot any tigers?"
"No."

"What on earth were you doing with yourself in India for five years?"

"Playing about", he smiled with a smile of kindly mockery.
"What did you see?"
"A lot.....

"Everyone was very kind to me. When they discovered I hadn't come to shoot tigers or to buy or sell anything, but only to learn, they did everything to help me.....

"The first two or three years I was in India I lived mostly in native hotels, but now and then someone asked me to stay with him and once or twice I lived in grandeur as the guest of a Maharajah. Through one of my friends in Benares I got an invitation to stay in one of the smaller northern states. The capital was lovely; 'a rose-red city half as old as time..'"

LARRY, the hero of Somerset Maugham's novel, THE RAZOR'S EDGE.

Ever since I learnt to write, I have admired Somerset Maugham for his rare gift of story-telling and the almost uncanny lucidity of his style. Some of his novels, like the sensitive "OF HUMAN BONDAGE", have a permanent place in English letters, while even his lesser stories with the exotic South Sea atmosphere are a delight to read, even if most of them are inconsequential literary trifles. I have a fairly vivid remembrance of a shy, extremely polite and soft-spoken, and startlingly prosaic and respectable-looking, middle-aged man sitting uncomfortably and self-consciously on the edge of a sofa, when I interviewed Somerset Maugham in his Taj Mahal Hotel suite some ten years ago. The window of his room were all closed and the blinds tightly drawn against the sunlight. And I remember observing in my report that it seemed that Somerset Maugham was afraid of the light—and the fresh air!

On that occasion a writer friend of mine who accompanied me requested the celebrity to autograph a copy of his own ALTOGETHER. 'Please write some advice to a young author", my friend had requested. And I still remember the exact words of the inscription that Maugham scrawled above his signature: "WRITE ABOUT THINGS THAT YOU KNOW AND AS SIMPLY AS POSSIBLE" An admirable piece of advice for writers old or new, middle-aged or young, and I must have passed it on to quite a few dozen of my friends and colleagues during the decade that has since passed.

With all my admiration and respect for him as a writer intact, it seems to me that Somerset Maugham himself has now repudiated the advice that he once gave to young hopefuls. "Write about things that you know". Now he wants them to explore the 'mysterious" and "glamorous" Orient and the "romantic" South America, and to write (presumably) either exotic tales of the South Seas like RAIN and THE LETTER, or the pseudo-spiritual stuff like THE RAZOR'S EDGE. In other words, about things that they DON'T know!

*

How To Sell 3 Million Copies Of Your Novel!

But THE RAZOR'S EDGE (the title is derived from the UPANISHAD: *The sharp edge of a razor is difficult to pass over; thus the wise say the path to Salvation is hard)* has turned out to be a best-seller. Three million copies have been sold and you can just calculate the astronomical royalties, not to speak of the tremendous amount paid to the author for the screen rights (They say it cost some million dollars to film one kiss for this spiritual saga of Upanishadic philosophy!!!). And though, among other things, I also remember Maugham telling me that he had such a low opinion of Hollywood that he NEVER saw the film versions of his novels or plays, yet BUSINESS IS BUSINESS, and a million dollars are a million dollars. And I haven't yet heard that an admirer of the Vedantic philosophy of renunciation like Maugham ever refused a million dollars rather than allow one of his stories to be vulgarised by Hollywood.

*

Religion Sells

It also occurs to me that, when considering the American market, a little bit of pseudo-spiritual mumbo-jumbo in an otherwise clever tale of sophisticated love spells BIG BUSINESS. Asked by an editor whether the "religious motive" of the novel had something to do with its big sale, Maugham replied:

"Yes, I am sure of it from the kind of letters I received; the Americans are dissatisfied with their philosophy of life. Power, money, success have not given them the results they hoped."

A complacent leader-writer of some Northern India paper has expressed gratification at the wide popularity of Maugham's "sympathetic insight into the spiritual basis of Indian life and thought", and further observes that "one can understand how many readers must have felt drawn to Indian ways of thinking by the study of this book."

Now I have personal experience of the consequences of the Americans' dissatisfaction with their philosophy of life. And I know that this dissatisfaction (which is a fact) does not lead to a real and healthy interest in Oriental philosophy but in a morbid and psychopathological craving for unusual and the exotic. I have seen with my own eyes the "spiritual" high-jinks in the various temples of New Thought, the soul-healers, the bogus Swamis in dinner jackets and turbans, the hysterical revivalists that abound in Southern California, not accidentally in and around Hollywood. I am not a religious person myself but I respect other people's faith, be it Vedanta, Islam or Christianity. But these spiritual rackets that thrive on the credulity and stupidity of frustrated American spinsters fill one with nausea.

In this connection I remember one particular incident that occurred during my brief stay in the United States. At the World Youth Congress held in Poughkeepsie (near New York) in 1938 we met a woman who evinced keen interest in "Oriental philosophy" and Indian religions. Later she wrote to me, expressing gushing admiration for the spiritual values of India, re affirming her great interest in Oriental religious literature, and finally informing me with obvious pride that from her local library she had acquired a book that shed a great deal of light on the "intricate and beautiful pattern of Eastern thought and life." Can you guess, the title of this book? Was it a translation of the Vedas? Or the Upanishads? Or the Bhagwad Gita? Or the Holy Quran? Or a work of Radhakrishnan or Iqbal? Nothing of the sort. It was—hold your breath—STRANGE SEX RITES AND CUSTOMS OF THE EAST!!

I have a suspicion that the phenomenal sale of Maugham's book does not indicate any real or wide interest in Indian thought but only a morbid fascination for the "mysterious" and exotic Orient and its strange schools of philosophy.

* * *

Blind To Reality

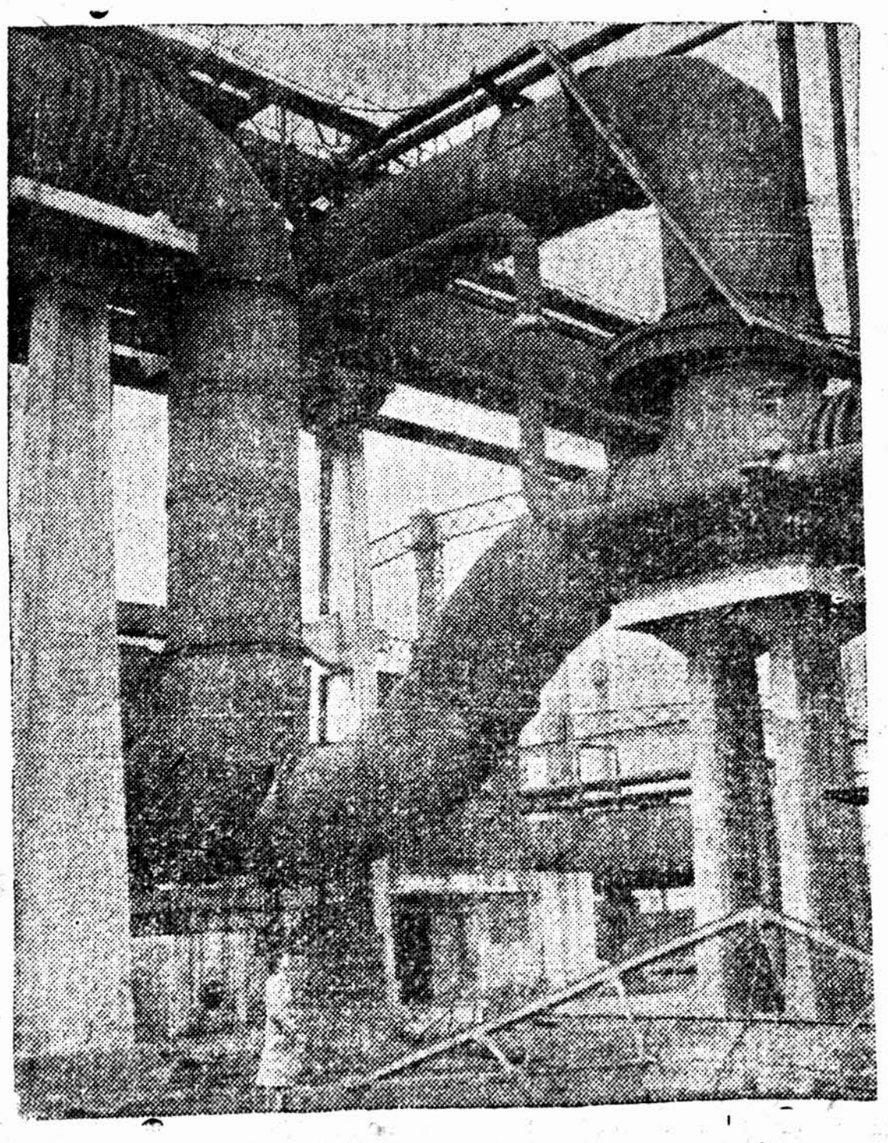
I am afraid Somerset Maugham's interest in India is still restricted to the "exotic" and "mysterious" aspects of our religion and philosophy. Here is an author who has spent considerable time in this country, travelled up and down. But what did he see and what has he recorded as his impressions of India? Not the slums in the cities and the starving peasants in the villages, not the historic upsurge of Indian nationalism challenging the might of an empire, not the rising tide of the proletariat, not the resurgent new Indian woman, not the unemployed intelligentsia, not the flaming youth. No, none of these things. He has closed his eyes to these realities, closed his ears against the rumbles of revolution; he has seen only the beauty of a sunset, in the Himalayas, the glitter of princely palaces; he has heard only the insidious Indian melodies and the priests' incantations in far-off monasteries.

And his hero, Larry, of THE RAZOR'S EDGE, has seen nothing else. (For, as the two extracts at the head of this column will show, Maugham himself and not Christopher Isherwood seems to be the basis of this character). Larry is supposed to have spent five years in India, five years that revolutionised his whole life and way of thinking. But not a breath of the poltical tempest touched his smooth cheeks; no hideous economic reality disturbed his calm meditations in the hills. Sensitive, though he is supposed to be, he did not feel the burning indignation against foreign rule that pervades this vast country from end to end.

I can no longer even be amused by this sort of thing. We are sick and tired of those who uphold imperialism behind a mask of admiration for our alleged "spiritual greatness." We don't want to be praised and pampered for our religions and philosophies and monasteries and mantras. We want to judge every one who claims to be an honest intellectual on the touchstone of anti-imperialism. For we know that behind a Yeatsbrown's picturesque Bengal Lancer is the reality of an army of occupation, and when an Englishman asks us to stick to our monasteries, we would like to know why he doesn't ask his countrymen to clear out of their cantonments, to throw their arms into the sea, and to don the saffron robes of mendicants.

The sharp edge of a razor is difficult to pass over, Mr. Somerset Maugham, but the path to a real understanding of India is harder. It does not pass through palaces and monasteries but through jails and slums and famine-devastated villages—the monuments to a century and a half of Imperialist rule!

A WINTER'S PROBLEM



EX-SERVICEMEN FIGHT NURSE SHORTAGE

St. Clement's Hospital, London, is running a training scheme for ex-servicemen and women on behalf of the Ministry of Health which, it is hoped, will help to relieve the great shortage of nurses throughout Britain. Under the scheme ex-orderlies from R.A.M.C., R.A.F. and W.A.A.F. cut down their training from three years to one. They undergo a six to eight weeks' course at the hospital, then go to L.C.C. nursing-training schools where they take preliminary State examination within three months. Ex-W.A.A.F. nursing orderly Isobel Bennett, dressing an abdominal wound, assisted by ex-R.A.M.C. orderly R. Beggs. The willing "patient", is himself a student.

Mr. Shinwell's pronouncement on the latest coal situation will have been received nowhere with greater interest than at the Beckton plant of the Gas Light and Coke Company of London, which is the largest gas works in the world. The works are capable of producing daily 120 million cubic feet of gas equalling 600,000 therms, but actual production is, of course, dependent upon the amount of coal available. Beckton is situated upon the north bank of the Thames just east of the Royal Albert Dock, and has a river frontage of 2,500 ft. for the handling of its coal, which comes by water mainly from the coalfields of Durham. These 60-inch mains are carrying the purified and "boosted" gas to holders for storage.

Humorous Skit

By M. S. Kini

Cooking, you will say, is not a man's subject.

You are right. It is not. Nevertheless a little precise knowledge will come in handy to us now and then. It is with this view that I am at present compiling a comprehensive guide, treating with understanding the peculiar problems it raises for us.

Everything a man ought to know is there, or will be there. The very First Chapter introduces the reader in a masterly way to the Dynamics of Cooking. Chapter Two is devoted in detail to the Pitfalls of Beginners and emphasizes the need on their part for checking all undue enthusiasm which is at the root of these major and minor bodily injuries they are liable to sustain in the processes of cooking, and shows them the way in a lucid manner. How to cut vegetables without cutting their fingers. How to handle heavy utensils without dropping them on their toes. How to pour boiling water without scalding their hands, etc. etc.

As the whole art of cooking without doubt may be said to be dependent on an ability to start a fire swiftly and satisfactorily, I have laid down in Chapter Number Three such minute directions that any ass can start a blazing, harmless fire without giving free play to his hidden incendiary proponsities and setting his property alight by resorting to kerosene. spirit, cotton, or waste paper and a burning match stick. Four lengthy chapters are entirely given to the important topic of a Solid Meal: How To Tackle It.

Among other things, the medical side of cooking will not be neglected. The Origin and Growth of Gastro-Splenetic Disorders (belonging to the common and popular group) which authorities maintain are directly attributable to localized disturbances in the Peritoneum caused by undercooking and over-feeding will be fully and freely discussed with my own shrewd observations and interesting findings in the sphere. And for the special benefit of accountants, I have a mind to give some original recipes on How To Cook Books and Figures for Profit and Pleasure. Be sure that book of mine will give its money's worth.

* * *

Now consider the usefulness of a work of this type—for instance, to young men who marry and find themselves in some such situation as this. The young man has been told by everybody, that is everybody who is determined that he shall not escape their designs for him, that the girl is an excellent cook, how excellent you won't know until you have married her and tasted the delicious dishes prepared by her accomplished hands, and the face of the young man shines.

The father of the girl throws hints about it. The mother of the girl frankly sings praises of it. The aunt of the girl catches hold of his ear and slyly whispers in it, 'And our Laxmi Devi is such a wonderful cook!' Then the uncle of the girl comes round with a genial expression on his face, gives him a push and stands over him, exclaiming, Ha' Ha, you should consider yourself lucky, extremely lucky.' After that, of course the unhappy young man has to say 'Yes.' The fateful event over, what does the innocent youth find!

He discovers the awful truth that the girl speaks fluent English, adds, subtracts, multiplies and divides little sums with greater despatch than himself and feeds him on a handsome diet of charred chappattles, baked rice, raw, healthy vegetables and plenty of salt, chillies and oil.

'Is not this particularly appetizing, my dear?'—asks the girl, shoving under his nose a plateful of something that looks like a gelatine and tastes like medicine. The young man eyes it apprehensively, breathes a silent prayer to the Heavens to save him from whatever fate is in store for him, and bolts it with eyes shut. 'Wha, whhaa—' he says, or rather groans. He dare not say anything else, or groan anything else.

In reality, what he wishes to blurt out when the pungent stuff passes his gullet is, 'You silly girl, you ought to have been kept shut under your father's roof and never let loose on me.' It is too late to retract now. If only he had properly equipped himself with a few lessons in cooking! My guide fulfils that wish.

* * *

Equally serviceable, I submit, will it be to a husband though his wife be a good cook. A book of cookery is as much vital to him. There is no use in his thinking that he can daily come home in the evenings ravenously hungry and expect a man-size meal be ready for him. Because the wife is apt to think otherwise.

She has her own important engagements, after which she bustles in, saying, 'I never imagined it was so late, my dear. Now you are not really feeling hungry, are you?' and the famished husband musters enough stamina to say in a weak, thin voice, 'Hungry. oh no, not at all, my dear. You know I am one of those animals with food parcels tucked in the lining of their stomachs, and can go without food for days, or weeks, if you want to,'—or something like that,—and rapidly sinks into a coma.

The prudent husband does no such thing. He has wisely provided himself with a copy of my guide. He opens it at page two hundred and odd where it tells him What To Do When Wives Are Out Shopping and Seem To Take The Whole Day Over It, strides into the kitchen, closely follows my instructions and strides out, pulsating with vim and vigour.

* * *

Next take cooks. Every employer of one must be familiar with the psychology of that individual. He has a pleasant way of looking at you with a blunt instrument in his hand that somehow takes away all your appetite and makes you hurriedly get up from the table, half way through your dinner. He is always on the point of severing his connections with you and transferring them elsewhere. The employer dreads the eventuality and is likely to beg him to stay and give him another chance.

At times the cook asks with a very severe air a question or two in Advanced Cooking in pure Sanskrit. Seeing you speechless and abashed, he gives a loud snort, as if to say, 'You mug, are you the cook, or am I?' Incidentally all cooks are first class cooks. They are all at the top of their profession. Entertain no doubts on the point. He will prove it by reeling off a list of Rao Bahadurs, Rao Sahebs, high Government officers, eminent Doctors, Lawyers, Bankers, living and dead, whom he had served at one time or other and whom he had to leave on account of heir sheer incompetency.

At otner times he shows a marked inclination to travel in a stiff, vertical line joined to a rigid figure whose motion to and fro in the kitchen causes considerable commotion. On these occasions when you thrust your head cautiously in to see the extent of damage to your property, the other merely flings the pieces through the window and meets you with a scowl. But if he is really angry with his employer, he charges on him with a steaming cauldron in one hand and a gleaming rod in the other and spills hot liquid over him, giving it the appearance of an accident.

And after all the trouble you take to keep on the right side of him, the pundit one day quietly walks over to the sink, washes his hands and passes out of your life—leaving you to shift for yourself. As my cook did the other day.

Take my word, that guide of mine will be worth while having round.

SINCE SHE WENT AWAY

(Continued From Page 2)

ed to attain the glorious motherhood. Now what a disappointment!

Nevertheless I was not so sorry that the child was born dead. But what I was very much worried about was over the possible effect it would have on Zuleikha in her present weak condition.

The nurse had not gone. In an understanding tone she said: "The lady shows some signs of recovery. Do console her about the loss." I could only reply her with a nod.

I did not forget to tell Zuleikha that life was not all disappointments and that it had its rosy side too. I did my best to lighten her sorrow-laden heart over the unhappy event.

Zuleikha looked a little better the next day. Some red had returned to her cheeks and she herself said that the pain in the abdomen had lessened considerably. And I felt a bit less anxious about her. That night I had some hours of good sleep, not having slept well for nights together.

Two days passed. Zuleikha showed marked improvement. Even the doctor said she could be taken home in a day or two. After so many days of anguish and anxiety, this encouraging news!

That evening, I was sitting beside Zuleikha's bed. My mother was not in the room. Zuleikha looked at me with yearning eyes. She was still weak. In her feeble voice she said how good I had been to her, how fortunate she had been to be married to me. Slowly she grew reminiscent over the happy days of our childhood together. But I was taken aback when she asked: "Will you forget me, if I go away?"

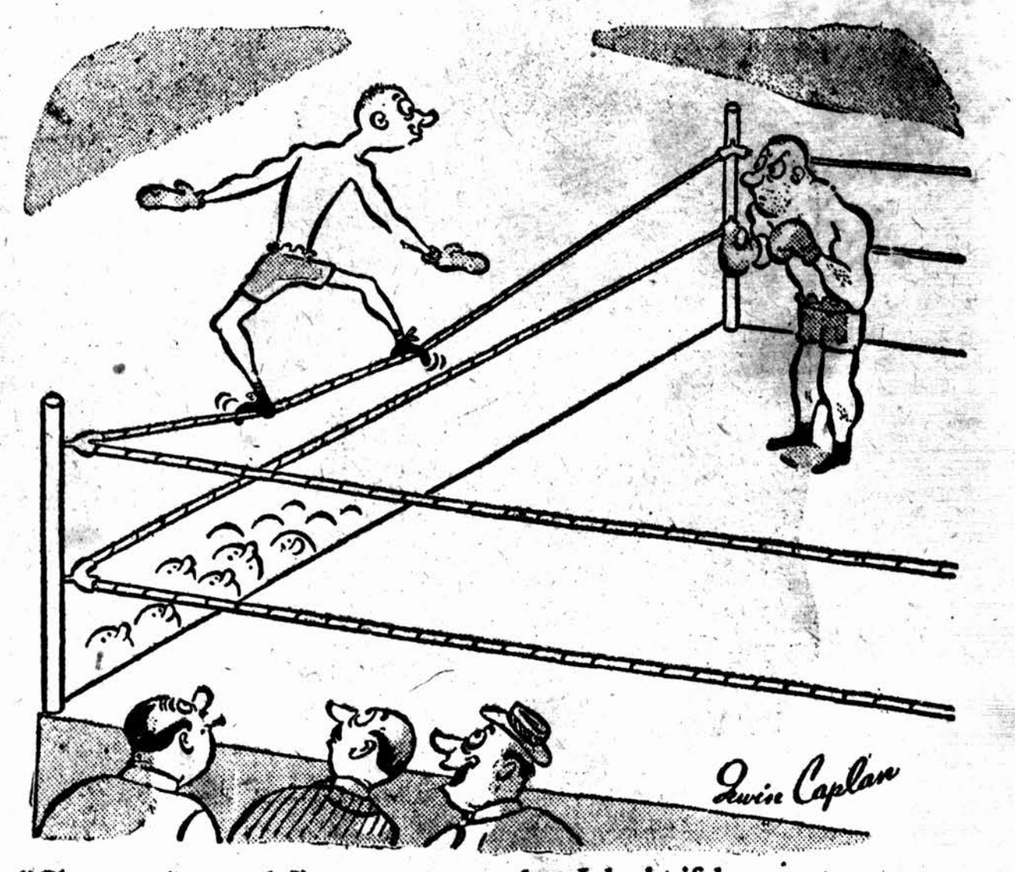
"Don't talk in that strain, Zuleikha dear. By Allah's mercy you will be alright soon. The doctor feels you can be taken home in a day or two" I said. But she just smiled—a sad smile. The doctor's words had infused in me such hope that I did not take Zuleikha's words seriously.

It was eight o'clock in the night. I was reading out a book to Zuleikha. All of a sudden Zuleikha complained of excruciating pain in the abdomen. The doctor was called in. In spite of quick medical attention the pain only grew intense—to such an unbearable degree that Zuleikha gave vent to agonised cries. "Oh, the pain —what a torture. God, have mercy. Let death come to me", she muttered. It was not long before she fell into a coma.

A serious relapse had occurred. And the doctor himself was at a loss how it had happened. A few injections were tried in quick succession, Zuleikha did not regain consciousness. "Only a miracle could now save her", the doctor said. And how I wished, wished desperately and prayed that the miracle should happen and yet save my Zuleikha. It was not to be. The candle had burnt out. Zuleikha never returned home. It was her dead body that did.

Never had I wept and sobbed so much as I did on the day Zuleikha was to be carried to her last resting place. God's will was done. What could poor mortals do but to bow in perfect submission to His decree, I tried to find consolation in such thought. But Zuleikha's words: "Will you forget me, *If I go away*", keep ringing in my ears. And the home where she has not returned to has no interest for me. And the life without my Zuleikha is incomplete; her death has left a void which I feel could be hardly filled. If at all I am living, I am living not in the present, but in the past—the past when Zuleikha was alive and with me.

That's why I do not think I can feel happy if I marry again. Nor do I think will the girl I would marry would feel happy with a man whose heart is somewhere else. So I refuse to marry. But people tell me: "I live in a strange world.", Ah, the pity is they do not realize the throbs and silent suffering of an aggrieved heart tered as mine!



"Cleverest footwork I've ever seen . . . but I doubt if he can stay away from the champ for ever!"

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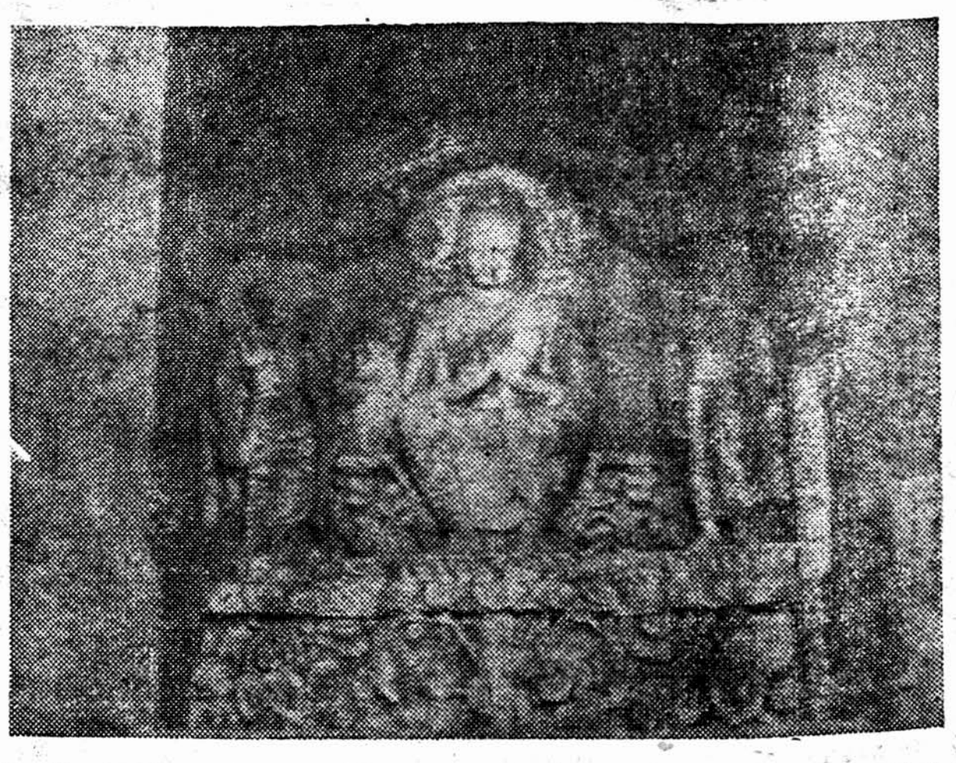
At Kanheri Caves

On Maha Shivaratri Day pilgrims gather from far and near to commune with this remnant of a lost civilization.

By B. F. FERREIRA



One of the numerous panels. The unknown vandals have played havoc with the fret work but the innate beauty of the carvings has survived the depradations of 20 long centuries.

A landscape view of the fair held in connection with the Mahashivaratri festival at Kanheri.

Nestling in a wild and picturesque valley about two hours' walk from Borivli station, lies the long deserted Buddhist monastery of Kanheri. The Government of Bombay recently announced their decision to acquire this ancient relic of Indian culture and religious learning along with the surrounding areas for the benefit of the public.

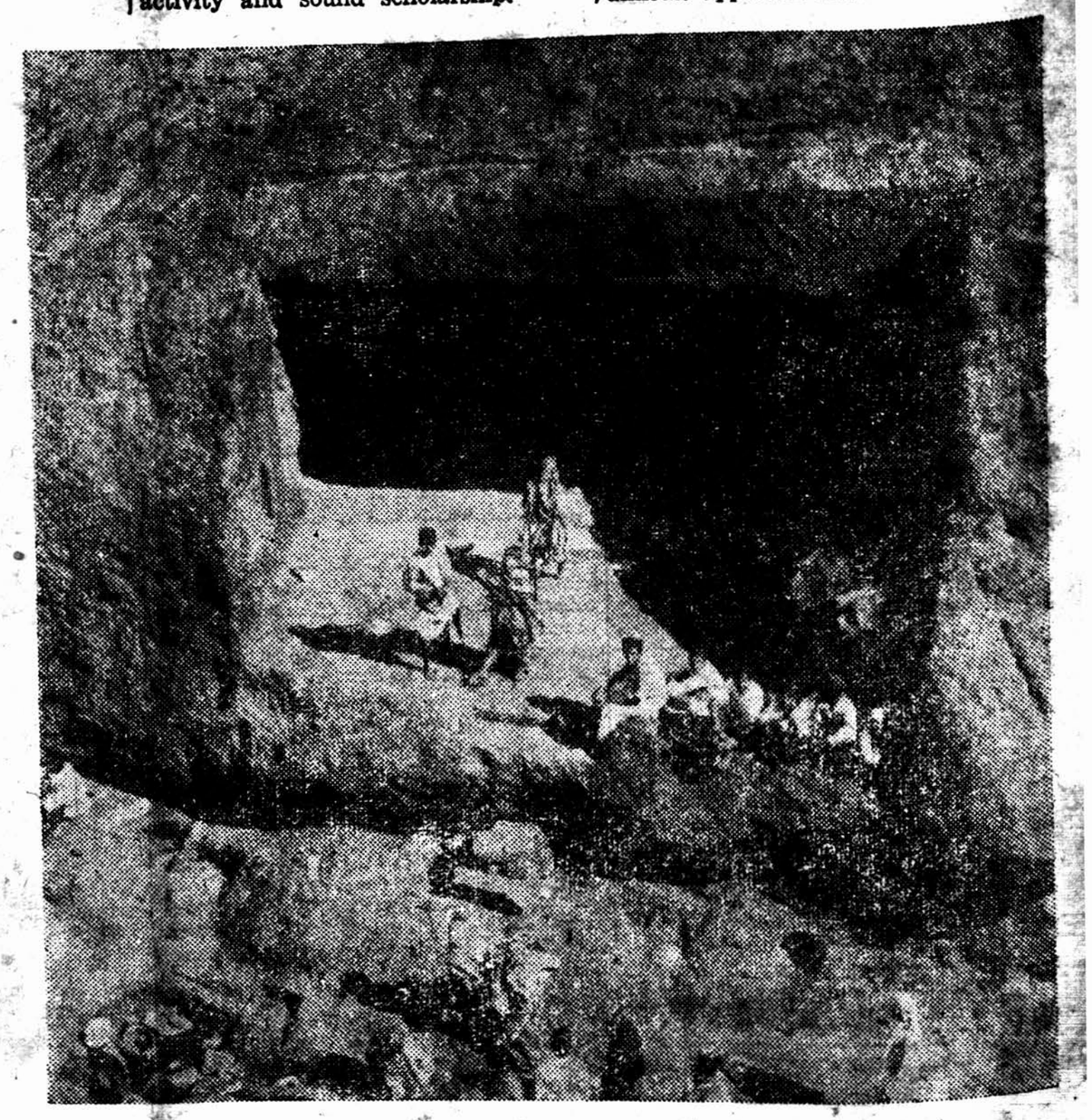
This year's festival which falls on the 19th instant, may be the last time that devotees and pilgrims have to trudge painfully along a cart track bristling with boulders, long grass, crisscrossing rivulets, and infested with wild animals. Perhaps an all weather road—a safe road with easy curves and a non-skid surface properly signed and signalled, with grade crossings eliminated, provided with footpaths, night lighting, tree-planted and landscaped roadsides,—may greet the visitor next year, if Government plans materialise as fast as they are hatched.

"Many sumptuous temples, and noble many-stoned palace-like buildings with images, columns, houses, porticos, figures, pillars, cisterns, temples, and chapels, all cut in the rock—a thing certainly not within the power of man and so wonderful that it may rank among the seven wonders of the world"—was the commentary of an European traveller who visited the monastery in 1539. The passage of four centuries has not obliterated much of what the famous traveller described, though the community who built it, worked, prayed, suffered, and perhaps rejoiced, have passed away, leaving behind sculpture and carving, as silent witnesses of their immense activity and sound scholarship.

Students of Archaeology and allied subjects will find here much to interest their inquiring minds and lot more to enthuse over. But to the ordinary man, nothing will intrigue his imaginations, or excite more curiosity and admiration for the ancient Buddhists, than their wonderful water supply system, whereby the whole colony received fresh running water in their own cloisters. Wrote Dr. John Fryer in 1673, "If it be so that it should have its Current upwards through the hard Rock artificially cut, the World cannot parallel so wonderful a Water-course." Even to-day fresh water can still be found scattered in ponds, pools and cavities, though it may be contaminated by hundreds of pilgrims bathing their bodies for self purification.

There are in all hundred caves carved out from solid rock, and archaeologists have placed their period of construction between 100 B.C. and 50 A.D. from reliable data found in inscriptions. These stone-carved edifices include lecture halls, rooms, refectories, etc., in fact all that was necessary to house a large community comfortably.

The Bombay Government's decision to develop Kanheri's adjoining areas into large public lawns and gardens, and to preserve for posterity one of India's most well-known link with the past—the Kanheri Caves—is as welcome as it is timely. It will afford everyone an opportunity of "seeing" the spirit that inspired the building of Kanheri Caves which would have daunted modern engineers with the most up-to-date equipment—a chance now denied to many on account of the difficult approach roads.



The 'Vihar' or the Buddhist Monk's dwelling caves are scattered throughout the whole system. Note the awning on the top to keep away the rain and sun (and left): The gigantic 23 feet high figure of Buddha in the vestibule of the 'Chaitya Cave' also called the 'cathedral cave.'

Photos by the Author

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